

## **Historic, archived document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
Food Distribution Administration

LIBRARY  
CURRENT SERIAL RECORD

APR - 7 1944

Washington 25, D. C. TIME  
January 1, 1944.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII-NO. 1

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

SUMMARY

Reports from all sections of the country indicate that bees have wintered well so far, with only spotted losses and these among colonies which went into winter in a weakened condition. With the exception of the Northeast no sections have had excessively cold weather for this season of the year. On the Pacific Coast moisture conditions have greatly improved, especially in southern California where heavy rains during the latter half of December broke the long drought. In the Intermountain Region, east of the Continental Divide, and also over much of the Plains Area there is still a marked deficiency in soil moisture. Little snow has fallen in these areas, and in many sections the ground is bare, which may result in damage to winter wheat and clover seedings. Through most of the southern belt of States moisture conditions have been favorable. In the Southeast temperatures during the early part of this period were cool enough to limit the activity of bees and cut down on consumption of stores.

Indications point to some expansion in beekeeping next season if supplies, package bees and labor are available. In any plans for expansion the big limiting factor is the shortage of skilled labor. Many southern package bees and queen producers are now unable to find sufficient skilled help to carry on the full spring operations. Package bee producers have all had extremely heavy orders for this early in the season and many have been booked to capacity for some time.

Available supplies of honey in beekeepers' hands are becoming much lighter and a large proportion of the honey left at shipping point will be sold directly to producers to local retailers or consumers. Many packers have fair stocks of honey on hand, but even by supplementing these present stocks with imported honey it is anticipated that many will have trouble supplying their regular customers with honey until the 1944 crop comes in. Most f.o.b. sales reported in all sections of the country consisted of relatively small lots, generally at ceiling prices although some sales continued to be made above OPA maximum prices.

- - - - -

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period Dec. 7-23)

Southern California. Rainfall ranging from five to eight inches during this period over most of Southern California, with heavy snowfall in the mountains produced ideal moisture conditions for this season. Precipitation for the season to date is from four to five inches above normal in most areas. Weather kept bees confined much of the time, although in some of the valley areas around Los Angeles and southward enough nectar has been gathered from eucalyptus and pollen from mustard to help colonies maintain their hive weight. In San Diego County ground plants are showing some early growth, especially in those areas burned over last summer and fall. In this area the Forest Service has sown around five pounds of mustard seed per acre by air plane as an erosion preventive on about 12,000 acres of watershed which was burned over in October. With the favorable growing conditions now prevailing this should provide considerable nectar and pollen for bees in this area. There has been some movement of bees from Wyoming and Utah into Southern California and also from the sage to the valley areas for the early spring flows. Honey supplies continue light. Deliveries by beekeepers consisted principally of small lots of extracted Orange, Sage, Sage-Buckwheat, and Mixed Flowers at the ceiling of \$14.40 per case of 120 lbs. f.o.b. country points in case to ton lots. Moderate supplies of beeswax met with a good demand at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. country points.

- over -



Northern and Central California. Over much of this area moderate rain fell during this period, although portions of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys are still very dry. Over much of northern California heavy frosts have killed ground plants or kept them dormant, although temperatures during mid-day have permitted bee flights. There is nothing in this area from which bees can obtain either pollen or nectar. In general colonies are in good condition, although some hives continue in a weakened condition as a result of arsenical poisoning last fall. Demand continues good for honey, with bottlers anxious to purchase any type available at the ceiling. Sales f.o.b. in case to ton lots-extracted: Alfalfa, Blue Curls, Cotton-Alfalfa, Manzanita, Orange, Thistle, Sage-Buckwheat, and various other Mixed Flowers generally 12¢ per lb. Demand for beeswax continues good, with very light offerings at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period Dec. 7-23)

Temperatures both east and west of the Cascades during this period were above normal. There has been little rainfall in either district. There was considerable frost especially east of the mountains. High winds prevailed in the Columbia River basin and although many days were clear bees had little or no opportunity to fly. There was a light snow fall in the higher altitudes. For the area as a whole moisture conditions are favorable and plant growth normal for this season of the year. Honey stocks continue very light. A few sales of small lots of Fireweed and Mixed Flower honey were reported at 12¢ per lb., f.o.b. shipping point.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period Dec. 8-24)

Temperatures over most of the Intermountain area have been favorable for wintering bees. Moisture conditions are below normal over practically the entire area east of the Continental Divide, while on the Western Slope conditions are somewhat better, but with the exception of southern Idaho and Utah, still somewhat below normal. The ground is frozen in most areas so that considerable additional spring moisture will be needed to put plants in good condition. Bees seem to be wintering well in all sections except portions of Utah where colonies went into the winter in rather poor condition as the result of depleted populations due to poisoning. Demand for both honey and wax continues good, but stocks of both are scarce. Few beekeepers have any large lots of honey remaining and much of that still in beekeepers hands will be sold on their local markets. Most packers have some stocks, but will do well to take care of old customers even with a certain amount of rationing until 1944 honey become available. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted: Alfalfa-Clover, in case to ton lots 12-14¢, mostly 12¢, some at 11½¢ with cans returned; in single 60s mostly to consumers, generally 15¢; in small pails 15-18¢. Comb a few small lots \$4.50-5.50 per case of 24 sections, depending on quality. Beeswax 41½¢ cash, and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers. Details by States follow:

Colorado. Some snow fell in the mountains, but moisture in the plains areas is still deficient and in nearly all sections of the State, with the exception of portions of the Western Slope, sub-soil moisture is still low. Temperatures so far this winter have been favorable for wintering of bees, in most cases being cool enough to limit consumption of stores but with enough warm, bright days for bees to obtain frequent flights.

Wyoming. Moisture is still short over most of Wyoming, although in most areas there is sufficient moisture in the soil so that honey plants have not suffered. With the soil freezing while still in a rather dry condition considerable spring rainfall will be necessary if plants are to be put in prime condition for next season. Temperatures have been very favorable for wintering and bees appear to be in good condition, both from the standpoint of colony strength and stores.

Montana. Precipitation has been light in all sections, with very little snow in the mountains and practically none on the plains. Temperatures west of the Continental Divide have been close to zero during the latter part of December but east of the mountains the weather has been somewhat milder, with heavy frosts or freezes at night but mild days. There have, however, been few days warm enough for flight. Where ample stores were left last fall bees seem to be wintering well, but where extracted too closely indications are that some spring feeding will be necessary.

-continued -



Idaho. In southern Idaho temperatures have been slightly above normal, with considerably less wind than usual for this season of the year. Temperatures have remained low enough most of the time to keep bees rather dormant. Moisture and plant conditions in this section are about normal.

Utah. The weather was generally mild, but damp and foggy in northern Utah. Temperatures have been high enough for bees to fly most every day that is not too cloudy. This has resulted in a rather heavy consumption of stores. Many colonies in this section are still very weak as a result of poisoning last season and indications are that many colonies may die before spring. There is considerable snow in the mountains, but little snow in the valleys.

Nevada. In western Nevada early and mid-December was unseasonably cold, with very little moisture, but during the latter part of the month temperatures moderated with almost daily rains.

ARIZONA: (Period Dec. 8-24)

In southwestern Arizona recent rains have greatly improved moisture conditions and present plant prospects are good. In southeastern Arizona rainfall has been light and considerable additional moisture is needed. In the south-east sections bees appear in good condition, with plentiful stores. Cooler weather than usual for this time of year has kept colonies dormant much of the time and less honey is being consumed by bees than usual. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb.- extracted: Mesquite in single 60s few sales 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, per lb. Beeswax, 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. f.o.b. beekeepers.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period Dec. 11-27) Texas.

Moisture conditions are fairly good over most of the State, although in parts of west Texas some additional rainfall would be beneficial. Cool weather over most of the northern section of the State has kept bees confined much of the time and resulted in a light consumption of stores. Some large lots of bees have been moved from the north into the Lower Rio Grande Valley. In this section a little early broodrearing has been noticeable. This should be helpful in providing a small force of young bees for early spring. A number of package bees and queen producers indicate that they are already booked to capacity and all report heavy orders. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- per lb., Extracted: South Texas, Cotton in case to top lots 12¢.

New Mexico. More snow has fallen in the upper Rio Grande Valley than for several years. This should greatly improve moisture conditions for next season.

Oklahoma. Bees in north central Oklahoma went into winter in good condition and appear to be wintering very well. Most of the honey crop is out of the beekeepers' hands.

Arkansas. Much of this period was rather cool with very little rain. Soil moisture is still very deficient. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- Mixed Flowers in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢.

LAKE AREA: (Period Dec. 10-25)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Weather during the latter part of December was rather cold, with temperatures on a number of occasions dropping to zero or a little below. In many places the ground is bare, except for drifts. Bees are generally wintering well, with ample stores. In some hives the honey is a little thin for best quality winter feed. Apparently very little honey is left for sale in this section and no sales were reported.

Iowa. Over most of Iowa the latter half of December was cold, with a number of days running below zero. There is little or no snow cover in most sections of the State so clover and other honey plants may be suffering some damage. In some portions of the State the ground was extremely dry when frozen. All reports indicate bees have been wintering well, although some colonies used heavier than normal quantities of stores during the mild weather earlier in the fall and winter. Only scattered lots of honey are available; mostly from producers who were delayed in their extracting operations. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- per lb., extracted: Clover in small pails 18-19¢, in 1 and 2-lb. glass jars 22-24¢.

Kansas. In most sections of the State soil moisture is still somewhat deficient, but honey plants are not suffering as yet. In portions of the State there is a fair snow cover while in other sections the ground is bare. Temperatures have been low during much of this period, keeping bees inactive. The only f.o.b. sales reported were 5-lb. pails Light Amber Alfalfa at 18¢ per lb.

Nebraska. Low temperatures - part of the time around zero - with very little if any snow cover may be causing some damage to clover plants. Soil moisture is still below normal. Bees appear to be wintering normally, with very good food supplies. Little honey is available in this section. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- per lb., extracted: Amber Mixed Flowers, in case to ton lots 12¢; Sweetclover in single 60s largely to consumers 15-16¢, mostly 15¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢.

Missouri. During the early part of this period sub-zero temperatures prevailed over much of Missouri, although toward the end of the month temperatures moderated considerably. Bees appear to be wintering well so far, with no losses having been reported as yet. However, they have not had a good flight since early December. In most sections of the State moisture is still deficient.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period Dec. 11-27)

Michigan. The latter half of December was quite cold, with some zero days reported. There is little or no snow cover with the result that winter wheat and clover seedings may be suffering. Bees appear to be wintering well but over most of the State they have not had good flight for around a month. There has been a very good demand for beekeeping supplies for 1944.

Wisconsin. Temperatures were generally moderate for this season during the latter half of December except for a few short spells of sub-zero weather. Outside wintered bees have had one or two opportunities to fly. The ground remains bare of snow and with the frost going down rather deeply farmers feel there may be much winter killing of clovers. The soil is extremely dry. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- per lb., extracted: Clover, in case to ton lots mostly 12¢; in single 60s 14½-15¢, with some as low as 12¢; in small pails 18-19¢; in small jars 20-21¢, a few high as 25¢. Beeswax 41-41½¢, mostly 41½¢ per lb.

Minnesota. Temperatures during this period have been about normal with no precipitation. With the lack of snow cover and hard freezing of the ground, clovers may be suffering. Bees appear to be wintering well and those that had sufficient stores when packed still have ample food supplies.

Ohio. Much of this period was cold with a number of zero and sub-zero days. The ground has been extremely dry all fall, but fairly good rains beginning around December 26 have broken this drought, although considerably more moisture will be needed to put the soil in good condition. The fall wheat and new clover seedings now appear in rather poor condition. Some beekeepers report loss among old bees as a result of the December cold. This was especially true in those sections where bees did not store very large quantities of aster honey and were unable to build up during the fall months. With the unusually poor clover crop of last summer many colonies were in poor condition when they went into winter. Only occasional sales of honey were reported, with Clover in single 60s generally around 15¢, some as low as 12½¢ per lb., and in 5-lb. pails 18-20¢ per lb.

Indiana. Much of this period was dry, with fairly low temperatures. Honey plants still appear in good condition despite the lack of snow cover and rather dry soil. Bees are wintering well, although some have used relatively large quantities of food during the early part of the winter. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- extracted, White Clover in 5-lb. pails 19¢, in 10-lb. pails 17½¢ per lb. Beeswax 43½¢ per lb. in trade.

Illinois. Temperatures during this period have been too low to permit any bee flights, but have still been quite favorable for successful wintering. In some sections of the State there is a slight snow cover, while in others the ground is bare. However, there seems to be little indication that honey plants are suffering. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- Mixed Clover and Heartsease in single 60s 15¢ per lb.

Kentucky. In the mountain sections of northeastern Kentucky near zero temperatures prevailed during most of this period. There has been no snow cover in most sections and the soil continues dry.



NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Dec. 15-29)

New York. Northern and western New York experienced some of the coldest weather for this season in a number of years. In some sections snow cover is protecting honey plants, while in others the ground is bare. Bees appear to be wintering fairly well, although they have not had a flight during December in most parts of the State. Offerings of honey are becoming steadily lighter, with small lots being about all that remains in producers' hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- per lb. extracted: Clover, in case to ton lots mostly 12¢; in single 60s 15¢; in 5-lb. pails 18-19¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢; Buckwheat, in single 60s 15¢. Comb: very few sales Clover mixed No. 1 and No. 2 \$4.80. Beeswax, 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Vermont. The weather during this period has been abnormally cold, with temperatures running as low as 20 below zero. To date bees appear to be wintering well, but with the early extremely cold weather there is some question as to how they will come through the winter. In most sections the ground is covered with snow which will protect honey plants. Demand for honey continues very good, with supplies rapidly diminishing. Sales f.o.b. shipping point: per lb. extracted- Clover, in small pails 17¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢.

Connecticut. On December the 27th the first rainfall of the month improved moisture conditions. The water table, however, is still low. Bees obtained a number of flights in early December, but have been unusually restless. This is possibly due to the fact that much of the winter stores so far consumed have been of fall Aster honey.

New Jersey. Much of this period was rather cool, but with a relatively high humidity. There was no snow but some rain during the last few days of the period. Somehives without top entrances were troubled with excessive condensation. Otherwise, bees seem to be wintering very satisfactorily. Only a few sales of honey were reported consisting of Mixed Flowers in 1-lb. glass jars at 18¢ each.

Pennsylvania. Temperatures during most of this period were around normal with one spell of sub-zero weather. There was no rain or snow until the last two or three days of the month when considerable rain fell. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- per lb., extracted: Clover, in small pails 18-19¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 22¢; Buckwheat, in barrels 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 18-19¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 22¢. Comb: Buckwheat \$5.25-6.00 per 24-section case.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period Dec. 13-29)

Maryland. Fairly cold temperatures during most of this period kept bees confined, although toward the end of the month temperatures moderated and bees obtained a couple of short flights. Practically all colonies appear to be wintering satisfactorily, although some are a little light in stores.

West Virginia. Temperatures in the mountains of western West Virginia have been unseasonably low. Indications are that some old bees in weak colonies have already perished.

Virginia. Much of December was cold and windy, although shortly after Christmas temperatures moderated into the 50s and bees obtained one or two flights. The ground has been bare of snow and in most areas frozen to a fair depth. There is little indication, however, of damage to clover plants as there has been little alternate freezing and thawing. In the Tidewater section some beekeepers plan to increase the number of colonies next spring, and some are moving further south for the early spring flows.

South Carolina. As yet there have been no prolonged cold spells in South Carolina and frequent flights have kept bees in good condition, although they have resulted in a fairly heavy consumption of stores. A few hives are still producing a little brood.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Dec. 11-27)

Georgia. Heavy rains have broken a record drought which prevailed in south Georgia. Freezing weather from December 15-19 with snow, ice, and temperatures as low as 19° hit this area. At the close of the month, however, temperatures had moderated and near normal weather prevailed. A number of package bee and queen producers report that they are practically sold out for 1944. Labor shortage is holding up queen production. The only sales of honey reported were a few small pails of Dark Poplar at 20¢ per lb.



Florida. Cooler than normal weather prevailed over most of north Florida. This has kept bees quiet and helped to conserve stores. Colonies over the State as a whole are in unusually good condition. In south and central Florida bees have been able to obtain a little pollen and nectar from vegetables pennyroyal, and also some nectar from eucalyptus (blue gum). Very little honey is available in this section and no sales were reported.

Alabama. During the early portion of this period freezing weather hit southward in Alabama as far as the coast, with small flurries of snow on December 15. This cold spell helped retard unseasonal budding of plants, and also cut down hive activity resulting in some conservation of stores.

Mississippi. Conditions have been generally favorable in this section with sufficient cool weather to keep bees confined a large portion of the time. Orders for package bees continue heavy. Many are being turned down because of earlier heavy bookings.

Louisiana. Much of this period was rainy. In the extreme southern portion of the State late blooming plants are still growing in sheltered locations, and fields, pastures and roadsides are already green with white clover. Some willows have started to bud along the rivers. A little farther north freezing weather has delayed growth of most plants and kept bees inactive. Both moisture and plant conditions are unusually good for next season in this section, and hive conditions are also very satisfactory at this time. In northern and central Louisiana heavy rains have assured plentiful soil moisture for the coming season, but in some sections young honey plants are not plentiful because of the earlier dry period. The labor situation is becoming critical among some package and queen producers. Some beekeepers feel that the lack of skilled help will be a factor in reducing production of both package bees and honey in this section in 1944. Honey is practically cleaned up except for local sales by producers.

#### TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of December. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals reported. No supplies on wholesale markets. No sales reported.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by rail, 1 car Idaho; no truck receipts reported.

COMB: No supplies on market.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales to bakers and other large users - IDAHO, 60-LB. tins Alfalfa Light Amber 15¢ per lb. COLORADO, 1-lb. jars Alfalfa Light Amber few \$2.97 per doz.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 41½-43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: No receipts reported. Demand light, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers - COLORADO and IDAHO, Alfalfa, White Sweet-clover, White to Water White, glass jars 24, 8-Oz. \$3.39; 24, 1-lb. \$6.00-6.15; 12, 2-lb. \$5.65; 12, 2½-lb. \$6.90.

COMB: No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Dealers offering 41½¢ per lb. for domestic crude.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, comb 20 cases Minn. 24 sections unwrapped; beeswax 300 lbs.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling. Sales to wholesale grocers - U. S. No. 1 blended honey 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04. Sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75.

COMB: Sales to retail grocers - MINNESOTA, White Sweetclover in window cartons cellophane-wrapped 14-15-oz. very few sales \$7.00.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Demand good, market firm. Sales f.o.b. beekeepers - for domestic crude Light Yellow, cash 41½¢; in trade 43½¢.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: origin not specified 159 bbls.; by truck 31 kegs N.Y. Supplies light. Demand exceeds supply, market firm, few sales in bulk.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and manufacturers - NEW YORK, Buckwheat 14¢.

IMPORTED: Sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling prices as follows- 20,000 lbs. or over unprocessed 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; processed 13¢; less than 20,000 lbs. but not less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, processed 14¢; less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; processed 15¢; plus freight.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Demand exceeds supply, market firm at ceiling. Sales by receivers port of entry- SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES, sun-bleachable 44  $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢, non-sun-bleachable 41 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by rail, extracted, 120,000 lbs. Iowa White Clover, 14,400 lbs. Ohio; by truck origin unknown 6,848 lbs. No offerings. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, 1800 lbs. bottled Midwestern. No offerings. No sales.

PORTLAND: Arrivals: by motor truck, extracted from Oregon, Fireweed and Mixed Flowers, 3 tons in 60-lb. cans; 172 cases 8-oz. glass, 100 cases 16-oz. glass; origin not specified 1 car by rail. Supplies light. Demand good, market steady. Sales to retailers and other large buyers in case lots -

EXTRACTED: OREGON and IDAHO, Sweetclover-Alfalfa and Mixed Flowers, 12, 5-lb. glass jars \$12.48-12.52; 24, 16-oz. glass jars \$6.21-6.23; 24, 8-oz. \$3.30; 12, 2-lb. \$5.72.

COMB: No supplies.

BEESWAX: Supplies moderate. Demand moderate. Dealers paying 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ in cash and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ in trade.

ST. LOUIS: Offerings light. Trading limited, market firm.

EXTRACTED: Sales by wholesalers and commission merchants to retailers- ILLINOIS, Mixed Flowers, Light Amber, 1-lb. jars few 24¢. IOWA and COLORADO, Alfalfa and Mixed Flowers, 16-oz. jars, cartons per dozen few \$3.27.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND and ALAMEDA: Receipts, by truck from Central California, 257 cases Light Amber Alfalfa-Bean-Cotton; 177 cases White to Extra White Blue Curls, 235 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers, 116 cases White Orange, 60 cases Extra Light Amber Buckwheat-Sage, 163 cases Light Amber Cotton-Blue Curls-Spikeweed; from Northern California 74 cases Light Amber Alfalfa, 110 cases White to Extra White Thistle.

EXTRACTED: The following quotations are from bottlers to wholesalers and other case lot buyers - 1-lb. glass jars 2 dozen per case \$5.04; 2-lb. glass jars 1 dozen per case \$4.76; 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. glass jars 2 dozen per case \$11.34; 5-lb. glass jars or cans 1 dozen per case \$10.18.

The volume number appearing on this report indicates the number of years honey reports have been issued by the Federal Government. The serial number is the number of reports issued so far this year.

Released Jan. 5, 1944.

mcb





WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
Food Distribution Administration

Reserve

Telephone - REpublic 4142,  
Extension 2176.

Washington 25, D. C.  
January 15, 1944.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII-NO. 2

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

SUMMARY

Weather conditions continued favorable for the wintering of bees in most sections of the country during the latter part of December and early January. Moisture conditions were somewhat improved in the Pacific Coast States, the Southwest, and Southeast. The Plains Area from the Rocky Mountains to the Great Lakes, and southward into Iowa, Nebraska and Colorado still continues very dry. A number of States in this area report the most severe winter drought conditions on record. Throughout this area plants may be suffering not only due to the drought but also because of the fact that in many widespread areas the ground was deeply frozen without any snow covering. Except for this drought area plant conditions are good, with prospects possibly a little better than were indicated a year earlier. This is especially true in southern California, Texas, and Louisiana where ample rains have fallen since early December. In the North Central and Plains Areas considerable concern is felt over the decrease in sweetclover acreage, partially as a result of the use of sweetclover land for other crops and in some sections as a result of increased weevil infestation.

In the extreme Southeast and Gulf Coast States broodrearing is beginning in a limited way, - a little later than normally. Pollen plants are coming on slowly. In this package bee and queen producing area labor shortage is expected to be acute this season. Many package bee and queen producers have been booked to capacity for some time, and northern beekeepers report that it is becoming increasingly difficult to place orders for spring delivery of either package bees or queens. This fact may be a determining factor in plans being made for expansion of beekeeping operations next season. Present indications are that for the country as a whole there will be very little increase in the number of colonies, although some individual beekeepers indicate that they plan some increase provided bees and labor can be obtained.

Supplies of domestic honey are becoming increasingly scarce. Many sections indicate some decrease in demand for honey, both from large buyers and consumers. More cane sirups have appeared on the market recently and have possibly filled some of the recent heavy demand for honey, particularly in view of the lower prices for the sirup. There has been no change in the prices on either honey or beeswax.

In a revision of WPB General Imports, Order H-63, effective January 12, honey which for more than a year had been covered by the order was not included among those commodities for which import licenses would be required. Import license authorizations will no longer be required to bring in honey from any country. The shipping priority on honey will remain the same as at present, but the importation will be solely a matter of arrangement between the buyer, seller, and transportation company.

Imported honey and imported sirups containing honey do, however, continue to be subject to the provisions of FDO 47 amendment 1 and 47.1, the same as domestic honey. When selling honey to manufacturers, their attention should be called to the fact that under the honey limitation order they are restricted in the use of honey to 600 pounds per quarter or 120 percent of the amount used by them during the corresponding quarter of 1941, whichever is greater. The quantity of honey in honey sirup is chargeable against "honey use quotas" the same as straight honey.

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period Dec. 23-Jan. 7)

Southern California. Conditions for both plants and bees have been practically ideal over much of Southern California. Additional rainfall has produced an excellent growth on early plants and indications are that next spring should see an unusually heavy growth of all types of honey producing

- over -



plants. Nearly all colonies have strong populations and most have ample stores of honey and pollen. A few beekeepers who extracted too closely last fall have placed their order for sugar for early feeding. There has been some movement of out-State bees into the valley areas and also some movement from the sage-buckwheat sections into the orange districts for the early orange flow. There is practically nothing for bees to work on at this time except eucalyptus, a very little early mustard, and off-season orange. Demand for honey continued fairly good, with rather limited supplies. Offerings consisted mostly of small lots of Orange, Sage, Sage-Buckwheat and Mixed Flower honey generally at the ceiling of \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds, f.o.b. country points. Beeswax supplies were moderate, with a good demand at the ceiling of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash, and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ in trade, f.o.b. country points.

Imperial Valley. Recent rains have stimulated growth of desert plants. Soil moisture conditions are somewhat better than average for this season. Bees are in normal condition. Present indications are for an early flow from desert plants which will stimulate early broodrearing.

Central District. Cool, rainy weather prevailed over much of Central California. Plant growth is beginning in a small way. Most colonies are in good condition, with ample stores of honey. So far little broodrearing is evident. A very little pollen is being gathered from eucalyptus. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted, Alfalfa, Cotton-Alfalfa, Buckwheat, and Mixed Flowers mostly 12¢.

Northern California. Over most of northern California recent weather has been cool, damp, and foggy, with fairly heavy rainfall in some sections. On the other hand, some portions of the Sacramento Valley are still short of moisture, and plants in these areas do not appear in good condition. Where moisture conditions are favorable annuals are germinating well. Generally hive stores are ample and bees seem to be wintering well. In the vicinity of Davis broodrearing has been heavier than normal, largely because pollen plants have not been absent at any time. There has been little movement of bees recently as most beekeepers had moved into the almond and prune areas previously. Very little honey is left in beekeepers' hands in this section. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted- Thistle and Mixed Flowers mostly 12¢ per lb.

#### PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Dec. 23-Jan. 7)

West of Cascades. Temperatures have been generally moderate, although some heavy frosts occurred, especially in the higher altitudes. There were also light flurries of snow. In the Willamette Valley there was some sunshine, but temperatures were not conducive to bee flights. In the Rogue River Valley mild weather resulted in considerable activity on the part of bees and a rather heavy consumption of stores. In all sections colonies are in generally good condition. For the Willamette Valley as a whole a larger acreage of vetch and clover was planted last fall than in the fall of 1942. Weather conditions have produced a much better than normal growth to date. In some sections there was some reduction in planting of hairy vetch because of increasing weevil damage to this variety. Very little honey remains in the hands of producers in this section and no f.o.b. sales were reported.

East of Cascades. The weather so far in both eastern Oregon and eastern Washington has been ideal for wintering bees with temperatures cool enough to limit bee activity but with an occasional warm day which permitted flights. No severe weather has hit this section, although in the Yakima and Wenatchee Valleys temperatures fell close to zero on one or two occasions. During the latter part of the period some sections had sleet and considerable snow fell in the higher altitudes improving prospects for irrigation water supplies. Very little honey is available. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Alfalfa-Clover, in single 60s mostly to consumers 14-15¢, mostly 15¢, in 5-lb. pails mostly 21¢. Beeswax 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash, and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

#### INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period Dec. 24-Jan. 8)

In most sections east of the Continental Divide there is still a large moisture deficiency, with little snow on the plains and in most of the mountain areas snow fall considerably below normal. West of the Continental Divide moisture conditions are somewhat more favorable, with some areas reporting fairly heavy snowfall especially in the high mountains. Some damage may have resulted to honey plants east of the Divide as the result of the dry fall and the ground freezing to considerable depth without any snow cover. Bees seem to be

- continued -



wintering well in nearly all sections, although in eastern Montana they have not enjoyed a good flight since late November. Most large lots of honey are now out of the hands of producers. Demand continues fairly good from bottlers and large buyers. On the other hand, local retail demand has fallen off somewhat, partially as a result of increased supplies of various cane and sugar sirups and also some jams and jellies which are selling relatively lower than honey. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted - Clover-Alfalfa, in case to ton lots mostly 12¢, a few high as 14¢; in single 60s mostly 15¢; in small pails 18-21¢. Beeswax, cash 41½¢, a few 42½¢; in trade 43½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers. Details by States follow:

Colorado. Light quantities of snow fell over most of Colorado, but there is still a heavy deficiency of precipitation in practically all sections. In many areas the ground was solidly frozen before any snow fell which will result in a heavy run-off. In most areas bees are wintering well with temperatures low enough to keep them confined much of the time but with sufficient clear, warm days to permit occasional flights. Most colonies have ample stores at this time.

Wyoming. In most sections of Wyoming bees have not had a flight since mid-December. The fall and early winter were very dry with the possibility that some honey plants were injured. Recent snowfalls have provided some cover for plants.

Montana. Temperatures west of the Continental Divide have been somewhat below normal, while those east of the Divide have been above normal. Snowfall has been light in all sections except some of the high mountain areas. Much of the plains area was still bare of snow, with the ground very dry at the end of this period.

Utah. Considerable snow fell over northeastern Utah at the close of this period, and temperatures were running near zero with below zero readings on some mornings. There has been little wind with the result that bees have not been injured by the cold. Most colonies appear in fair condition.

Nevada. Weather conditions have been favorable, although rather cool, with snow and rain in the lower elevations and heavy snow at the higher altitudes. In some of the lower altitudes there is still a moisture deficiency.

#### ARIZONA: (Period Dec. 24-Jan. 8)

In the Salt River Valley temperatures have been low enough to keep bees confined much of the time. A little pollen is being gathered from mistletoe. Some early mustard is blooming and scattered orange trees are beginning to bloom in a very limited way. Very little honey is available. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted - Mixed Flowers, in case lots 12-12½¢, mostly 12¢; Mesquite in single 60s few sales 13¢, in small pails 14¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

#### SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period Dec. 25-Jan. 10)

Texas. Lower Rio Grande Valley - At the end of this period conditions were about normal, although the cold wave which swept over Texas reached into the valley. It is believed that temperatures were not low enough in this section, however, to severely damage honey plants. A little new pollen was being gathered and most colonies have begun broodrearing. Huisache was in bud and should begin blooming late in January. This tree is a heavy pollen producer and where stores are ample broodrearing should pick up rapidly when it begins producing in volume. Demand for package bees and queens remains heavy, with most shippers turning down orders.

Other Texas - Good rains during late December and early January have covered most of Texas, greatly improving plant prospects. In northeast and southeast Texas precipitation so far has been somewhat above normal. In these sections agarita is showing some buds and occasional bloom. This plant should be blooming well by February 1. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted - South Texas Cotton, case to ton lots 11½¢ per lb.

New Mexico. Cold weather has prevailed in the Mesilla Valley for the past two or three weeks. Those bees that had plenty of brood and honey in the fall seem to be wintering well.

Arkansas. Considerable rain and snow has fallen during this period which will help relieve the drought condition of last fall. Temperatures have fallen as low as 10° in southern Arkansas, and bees have had no opportunity for flight.



PLAINS AREA: (Period Dec. 25-Jan. 10)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. The ground is still very dry; with little or no snow. Temperatures have been rather mild for this season. Bees are apparently wintering very well. Very few honey sales were reported and very little seems to be available in this section. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Sweetclover in single 60s few sales 15¢, in small pails 19¢.

Iowa. Over the State bees are wintering well with moderately cool temperatures and little or no precipitation. Occasional flights were obtained but temperatures have kept bees confined closely enough so that consumption of stores has not been excessively heavy. Considerable concern is being felt over the condition of honey plants in view of the extreme moisture deficiency existing at this time. In many sections of the State the acreage of both sweetclover and white clover has been reduced as plantings of soybeans are being increased. Very few large lots of honey remain in producers' hands. Many are completely sold out except for small lots held back for the local trade. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted - Sweetclover, in case to ton lots 12¢, some 11½¢ with cans returned.

Kansas. Temperatures have been unseasonably cold in northern and eastern Kansas. Some additional snowfall has greatly improved moisture conditions and it is believed that plants are wintering very satisfactorily. Bees appear to be wintering well, although in some sections they have not had a good flight for more than a month. Prospects are for less sweetclover next season but some increase in the acreage of white clover.

Nebraska. The dry, open winter continues over much of this State, with temperatures running fairly low although bees have had opportunities to obtain needed flights. The drought situation is becoming increasingly severe in most areas. Bees are wintering well, although many colonies have used a considerable portion of their stores as a result of the mild fall and winter weather.

South Dakota. Most of this State is short of moisture. Acreage of sweetclover is lighter than normal. Bees appear in good condition.

Missouri. Moisture conditions were greatly improved in Missouri by a fairly heavy snowfall. On a number of occasions temperatures dropped to the zero mark but at no time stayed there sufficiently long to injure bees. Bees have not had a good flight for over a month. However, they appear to be wintering well since they went into the winter with good clusters of young bees and in most sections with abundant stores.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period Dec. 27-Jan. 11)

Michigan. On the upper peninsula cellar stored bees are wintering well. Only sufficient snow has fallen to provide a little covering for crops. On the lower peninsula the weather has been rather changeable, but averaging a little milder than normal for this season. The ground is quite dry. On the lower half of the peninsula there is practically no snow cover, while on the northern half only small amounts have fallen. Clover plants may not be fairing too well, although there has been no alternate freezing and thawing to heave the plants. Bees appear to be wintering very well, with a light consumption of stores so far. In most sections they have not obtained a flight for about a month.

Wisconsin. Most of the period was cold, with some below zero weather. However, temperatures have not been unfavorable to wintering of bees to date. The ground is dry and frozen to a considerable depth. Toward the end of the period a little snow fell over much of the State, which will afford some protection to honey plants. Demand for honey was a little lighter but offerings were also considerably lighter. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - White Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢; in small pails and glass jars 18-19¢.

Minnesota. Most of this period was dry and moderately cold, although toward the end of the period a very little snow fell in some sections and temperatures dropped to below zero for a short period of time. Following the fairly heavy snowfall of early November the precipitation over most of Minnesota has been the lightest since weather records have been maintained in the State. Bees are wintering well although they have not had a good flight for some time.

Ohio. In the southern and western portions of the State some snow and rain fell during the early part of this period. Most of the Northern portion of the State has had very little precipitation and the ground is bare. Temperatures have been moderately low, keeping bees confined but resulting in a light consumption of stores. Apparently colonies are wintering well although many colonies have abnormally small clusters. Very few honey sales



clover, mostly in small pails at 18-21¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers. A little dark melter honey sold in single 60s at 10¢ per lb.

Indiana. Little or no precipitation fell during this period. In most sections of the State additional moisture is badly needed. Bees have been confined, but temperatures have not been sufficiently low to injure them. They appear to be wintering well. Clovers seem to be in fair to good condition as yet despite the scarcity of snow and moisture.

Illinois. Temperatures have been moderately low during the past period over much of the State. In the southern and central portions there is a good snow cover, while in the northern portion of the State there has been little or no snow fall. In the northern portion of the State bees obtained one or two good cleansing flights during late December and early January, but in the southern portion they have not flown since early December. In this section there are some indications of dysentery and some losses are anticipated. Only a little honey moved during this period. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. White Clover in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s and bulk in consumers' containers mostly 15¢, with a few sales in single 60s as low as 12½¢; bulk comb few sales 16¢. Beeswax few sales 41-41½¢ f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Kentucky. In north central Kentucky recent rains have greatly improved soil moisture conditions, and the ground is now covered with snow which should be helpful to fall grains and honey plants. The general condition of plants, however, is only fair. Bees are apparently wintering well, although in need of a good flight. Reports indicate little expansion in beekeeping operations in this section for next season.

#### NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Dec. 29-Jan. 13)

New York. Much of the Hudson River Valley section had a very good snow fall during this period. On the other hand, precipitation has been light in most of northern, central and western New York. In many places the ground is bare, while in others there is a sufficient snow cover to give some protection to honey plants but not enough to add greatly to the moisture supply. Except in northern New York there is, however, no great moisture deficiency. Temperatures have been low enough to prevent bee flights since late November or early December in most sections. In some yards bees are showing signs of distress, but in general they seem to be wintering fairly well. Consumption of stores has not been abnormally heavy. A fairly representative number of sales were reported during this period, although most sales were relatively small lots. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted - Clover, in case to ton lots mostly 12¢; in single 60s 15¢; in small pails 18-20¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢; Buckwheat in single 60s 15¢; in small pails 16 2/3-19¢.

Vermont. Weather continued good during this period, with some additional snow fall. At the end of the period there was about an eight inch snow cover in the Champlain Valley. Bees have had no flight since November, but seem to be wintering satisfactorily. Demand for honey continues good, with 5-lb. pails of extracted Clover selling f.o.b. at 17¢ per lb., and 1-lb. glass jars at 21¢ each.

Connecticut. There has been little snow to date in Connecticut. The water table is very low for this season. Occasional bright sunny days bring out a few bees but no general flights have been observed. Bees seem to be wintering fairly well.

New Jersey. The last part of this period was cold, with sufficient snow to protect honey plants. The good fall honey flow which prevailed in northern New Jersey provided colonies with an abundance of winter stores, and with the mild weather which prevailed during the early winter colonies are now in excellent condition. A few sales of Mixed Flower honey in 1-lb. glass jars were reported at 18¢ each, with beeswax at 41-41½¢ per lb. cash to beekeepers.

Pennsylvania. Temperatures in northern and central Pennsylvania reached very low levels during this period. In most sections there is sufficient snow to protect honey plants, but in central and western Pennsylvania the soil is extremely dry. In some sections farmers are hauling water because springs and wells are dry. Despite the fact that bees have not had a good flight since before Thanksgiving, they appear to be wintering fairly well in general. In some yards, however, there is indication of distress.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period Dec. 29-Jan. 13)

Maryland. Some rain and snow fell during this period, although at the close of the period the ground was still bare in western Maryland. Temperatures have been moderately cold, keeping bees confined. However, indications so far point to satisfactory wintering.

Virginia. In the Tidewater section, cold, damp weather has prevailed since Christmas. Two snowfalls which lay on the ground for three or four days greatly improved moisture and plant conditions. Bees had two or three good flights during this period and appear to be wintering well.

West Virginia. In western West Virginia temperatures have been extremely low and have kept bees confined for about a month. Some beekeepers feel that in this section the winter cluster is being reduced by the cold.

North Carolina. This period was unseasonably cold for this section of the country. However, bees are wintering satisfactorily.

South Carolina. Cool to cold temperatures prevailed during most of this period, although there were a few days warm enough to permit limited bee flights.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Dec. 27-Jan. 11)

Georgia. The weather in south Georgia has been cool and damp, keeping bees confined much of the time. Considerable precipitation has improved soil moisture and lessened danger from forest fires. Considerable additional moisture will be needed, however, to put plants in prime condition. Bees seem to be wintering well. In the extreme southern portion of the State broodrearing has begun in a limited way. Some pollen is coming in from maple, mistletoe, and tag elder. Beekeepers in general feel that the present outlook for 1944 appears somewhat better than for 1943. However, it is expected that some feeding will be necessary before the spring honey flows come on.

Florida. In the northern part of the State weather has been cool and damp so that bees have not been too active. In the southern part of the State temperatures have been generally favorable although there have been a few cool periods. For the State as a whole colonies appear to be wintering well, although in some yards consumption of stores has been abnormally heavy and it seems probable that some spring feeding will be necessary. In south Florida bees are obtaining some pollen from early willow, mango, eucalyptus (blue gum), and a little maple. Some small quantities of honey are being obtained from pennyroyal on favorable days. Very little honey moved during this period. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Amber Mixed Flowers in barrels 11½-12¢; Sunflower (*Helianthus*) in small pails 15¢ per lb.

Alabama. Cool weather continues to keep colonies fairly inactive. Consumption of stores has been light, and if this type of weather continues for another month it is expected that little spring feeding will be necessary. Colonies appear strong and have had sufficient flights to keep them healthy. Demand for package bees continues heavy. The labor situation among package bee and queen producers is becoming steadily worse.

Louisiana. In the vicinity of Shreveport continued rains with some snow have provided much needed soil moisture. Young honey plants are coming on in abundance. Bees in this section are wintering well, with only a moderate consumption of stores. In the southern part of the State the weather has been cold and cloudy preventing any extended bee flights and delaying broodrearing. Many colonies are still broodless, while others have only a small patch of brood, whereas in the extreme southern section of the State about two frames of brood are common for this season. Maple and elm are late but should provide pollen and some nectar during late January. Consumption of stores has been only moderate during this period, with the scale colonies at University Station losing weight at a uniform rate of about five pounds per month. Plant conditions are good, with more than ample moisture in the ground.

- - - - -



## TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of January. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

**BOSTON:** No arrivals reported. Nothing available on wholesale markets or through brokers. No sales reported.

**CHICAGO:** Receipts: by rail 1 car Calif, and 1 car origin not specified; by truck 1540 lbs. Ind., 600 lbs. Minn.

**COMB:** Supplies very light. Demand good, market firm. Sales to retailers - INDIANA, cases, 24, sections White Clover few \$6.00.

**EXTRACTED:** Supplies very light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales to brokers and other large users - MINNESOTA, 5-lb. pails White Clover few \$13.00 per doz.

**BEESWAX:** Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ -43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

**DENVER:** Receipts: extracted 9,200 lbs. Colo., comb 60 cases Colo. Demand moderate, market steady.

**EXTRACTED:** Sales to jobbers - COLORADO and IDAHO, Alfalfa-White Sweetclover, White to Water White, glass cases 24, 8-oz. \$3.39; cases 24, 1-lb. \$6.00-6.15; 12, 2-lb. \$5.63; 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. \$6.90.

**COMB:** Sales to retailers - cellophane-wrapped Extra Fancy \$7.00-7.25, Fancy \$6.75-7.00.

**BEESWAX:** Receipts approximately 500 lbs. Demand moderate, market steady. Dealers paying Domestic crude 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb.

**MINNEAPOLIS:** Arrivals: by truck extracted 180, 60-lb. cans Minn. White Sweetclovers.

**EXTRACTED:** Supplies very light. Demand very good at ceiling. Sales to wholesale grocers - U. S. No. 1 blended honey 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04. Sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75.

**NEW YORK:** Arrivals: Origin not specified 94,600 lbs.; Calif. 66,096 lb. Supplies very light. Demand exceeds supply, market firm. Few sales reported.

**EXTRACTED:** Sales to jobbers and manufacturers - No Domestic offered in bulk, used for bottling purposes. Imported, sales made f.o.b. Port of entry at ceiling prices as follows - 20,000 lbs. or over unprocessed 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, processed 13¢; less than 20,000 lbs. but not less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, processed 14¢; less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, processed 15¢, plus freight.

**BEESWAX:** Supplies extremely light. Demand exceeds supply, market firm at ceiling. Sales by receivers port of entry - SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun-bleachable 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

**PHILADELPHIA:** Arrivals: by truck 6,864 lbs. origin not known. Honey and beeswax no offerings, no prices available.

**PITTSBURGH:** Arrivals: by rail and truck, extracted 11,780 lbs. bottled Midwestern. No offerings. No sales.

**PORTLAND:** No arrivals reported. Supplies light. Demand good, market strong. Sales to retailers and other large buyers - in case lots -

**EXTRACTED:** OREGON and IDAHO, Sweetclover-Alfalfa and Mixed Flowers, 12, 5-lb. glass jars \$12.48-12.52; 24, 16-oz. glass jars \$6.21-6.23; 24, 8-oz. \$3.30; 12, 2-lb. \$5.72.

**COMB:** No supplies.

**BEESWAX:** Supplies moderate. Demand good. Dealers paying 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ in cash and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade.

**ST. LOUIS:** Offerings very light. No trading reported, prices nominally unchanged as follows:

**EXTRACTED:** Sales by wholesalers and commission merchants to retailers - ILLINOIS, Mixed Flowers, Light Amber, 1-lb. jars few 24¢. IOWA and COLORADO, Alfalfa and Mixed Flowers, 16-oz. jars, cartons per dozen few \$3.27.



SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND, AND ALAMEDA: Receipts: by truck, from Central California - 24 cases Amber Alfalfa; 68 cases Extra Light Amber to White Alfalfa-Blue Curls-Cotton-Bean mixture; 95 cases Extra Light Amber Buckwheat; 20 cases Light Amber Lima Bean; 137 cases Light to Extra Light Amber Mixed Flowers; from Southern California - 58 cases White Orange, 177 cases White to Extra White Sage; no receipts reported from Northern California.

EXTRACTED: The following quotations are from bottlers to wholesalers and other case/lot buyers - 1-lb. glass jars 2 dozen per case \$5.04; 2-lb. glass jars 1 dozen per case \$4.76; 2½-lb. glass jars 2 dozen per case \$11.34; 5-lb. glass jars or cans 1 dozen per case \$10.18.

BEESWAX: Offerings light and only in very small lots. Demand strong at ceiling price of 41½¢.

#### SUMMARY OF 1943 HONEY SEASON

Heavy losses of bees during the winter of 1942-43; a late spring and slow build-up in many sections; the second below normal honey crop in succession; labor shortages; a larger proportion of the honey crop being marketed directly to consumers by beekeepers; continuation of ceiling regulations on honey featured the production and marketing of the 1943 honey crop.

Over a fairly large proportion of the country bees went into winter quarters in the fall of 1942 in a rather poor condition and in many cases light in stores. The matter of stores was further aggravated in many cases by beekeepers having extracted too closely in view of the higher honey prices being received. This resulted in abnormally heavy winter losses in many sections. Over much of the northern portion of the country a late spring or unfavorable weather during the spring flows, retarded the spring build-up of bees and necessitated considerable late feeding. In the clover producing area of the North Central and Plains States many colonies had to build up on the main flow. Spring and early summer rains produced an abundance of honey plants and prospects appeared favorable for a heavy flow. However, rains in many sections during the clover-blooming season kept bees inactive much of the time. The December crop report indicated 4,901,000 colonies of bees in the country, or about the same as in 1942. This crop report also indicated a honey crop of 189,000,000 pounds. This was 11,000,000 pounds above the small 1942 crop, but was somewhat below recent averages. In most sections of the country the fall nectar flow was favorable with the result that bees were able to build up well and in most areas went into winter in good condition with ample stores. The late mild fall and early winter further improved 1943-44 wintering prospects.

OPA Ceilings on Honey. Maximum Price Regulation 275, which established price ceilings on honey and beeswax late in 1942, continued in effect, with amendments, throughout 1943, with a maximum price for large lot sales by beekeepers at 12¢ per lb., or 11½¢ per lb. when the buyer furnished the container. This regulation was amended to permit sales by beekeepers directly to consumers in single 60s at 15¢ per lb. Further amendments provided to those packers who wished to use it, flat pricing of packaged honey as contrasted to the formula method of pricing established in the original order. Many beekeeper packers took advantage of this provision. Amendment 5 to the Order authorized payment on domestic processed honey of 1¢ per pound, and on imported honey of 1½¢ per lb. above the maximum price that could be paid for unprocessed honey. Amendments to MPR 237 and 238 provided markups for honey sales by dealers at wholesale and retail levels. Sales by beekeepers or other packers at these levels were authorized under amendment 4 to MPR 275 at flat ceiling prices. The ceiling prices of 41½¢ per lb. cash and 43½¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. continued on domestic crude beeswax.

Larger Than Normal Proportion of Crop Sold by Beekeepers Directly to Consumers. Many beekeepers who had previously sold their crops to large packers or carlot assemblers sold this season directly to consumers either in single 60s or in small containers in order to obtain the higher prices permitted on such sales under MPR 275. Large packers found it difficult to obtain their normal supplies of domestic honey. Proportionately larger amounts of honey were available to those consumers close to the producing areas, with a corresponding decrease in quantities available to city users. A very large proportion of the honey crop was out of beekeepers' hands before January 1, 1944.

- continued -



Unlimited Supplies of 60-lb. Cans and Increased Quantities of Bee Supplies and Sugar Available. The War Production Board permitted manufacturers to provide the beekeeping industry with unlimited supplies of 60-lb. cans for the packing of honey and also unlimited quantities of glass containers of 8-ounce and larger. No tin containers smaller than 60s were provided for packing honey. However, it was possible to substitute glass for the smaller packages. WPB also permitted bee supply manufacturers toward the end of the year to put out unlimited supplies of hives and frames and 100 percent of other bee supplies manufactured by them based on their output of 1940 or 1941 whichever was greater.

A regulation of the Office of Price Administration released late in the year permits additional quantities of sugar for feeding bees. This allows beekeepers to obtain in addition to their regular annual quota of 10 pounds per colony an additional amount of 15 pounds per colony where a real necessity for it is certified to by the local County Agent.

Allocation of Honey to Manufacturers Continues. Under Food Distribution Order 47, manufacturers of other products in which honey is used are restricted to not more than 120 percent of their 1941 use or 600 pounds per quarter whichever is greater. In some cases where a manufacturer has developed a new formula involving the use of honey that seems to have post war possibilities a special allotment of honey is permitted to the manufacturer above his allotment of 600 pounds per quarter, regardless of his previous use of honey. Importation of honey during the year except rail receipts from Mexico, Guatemala and El Salvador, required import authorizations which were issued under WPB General Imports Order M-63. Considerable quantities of honey were imported mostly from the Caribbean area, including Central America and Mexico.

Increased Emphasis Placed on Conservation of Beeswax. In view of the many war time uses being made of beeswax, beekeepers have been encouraged to conserve all beeswax possible. Considerable publicity was given to this program by bee magazines and radio appeals by the Department of Agriculture with the result that the 1943 production of beeswax was estimated at 3,743,000 pounds or about 400,000 pounds more than in 1942.

Bees as Pollinizers. During the past year increasing recognition has been given to the importance of bees as pollinizers of many leading agricultural products. Over 50 legumes, fruits and vegetables either depend entirely upon bee pollination for producing seed, or their seed output is substantially increased by bee visitation. The necessity of shipping large quantities of seeds to areas devastated by the war have made this increasingly important. The recognition of this has been partially responsible for the War Production Board granting to beekeepers unlimited quantities of 60 pound cans, a concession which was granted to but few other products; bee supplies have been accorded a higher production rating, and beekeepers have been included in the list of essential farm workers. Twenty-five colonies of bees are considered one war unit in basing a beekeepers eligibility for deferment.

- - - - -

Released Jan. 21, 1943

neb





116 34 H  
WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
Office of Distribution

LIBRARY  
CURRENT SERIAL RECORD

MAY 13 1944

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Washington 25, D. C.

February 1, 1944.

Telephone - REpublic 4142,  
Extension 2176.

A SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII-NO. 3

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

SUMMARY

Temperatures during the first half of this period were slightly below normal in the Eastern and Southeastern States, but somewhat above normal over most of the balance of the country. During the last week of the period temperatures were considerably above normal over the entire country. The northern half of the country from eastern Ohio westward to the Rocky Mountains has had the mildest and driest winter in a good many years. Through the upper Mississippi Valley and in some of the northern Plains States the winter precipitation to date has been the lightest since Weather Bureau records have been maintained. There has been little or no snow cover over most of this area and the ground has been quite deeply frozen so that any light rains that have fallen have largely run off. There is considerable concern in some sections over the prospects for next season's honey plants, although in most States there is little indication that clover has suffered much so far because of the fact there has been little alternate freezing and thawing. Indications throughout the Clover Belt point to a considerably reduced acreage of clover next season, largely because of the urgent demand for soybeans and some other cultivated crops.

Reports from all sections of the country indicate bees are wintering well and in most areas have fairly ample stores. In portions of the Clover Belt and also in the Intermountain Region some early spring feeding may be necessary. In southern California and in the Gulf States from Texas eastward broodrearing is becoming rather active. In these States considerable pollen is available from maple, elm, willow, and some other early sources. In some of the northern States where recent temperatures have been mild small patches of brood have been noted in many colonies.

Reports on prospects for expansion of beekeeping operations next season are extremely variable, although it seems probable that if package bees, labor, and gasoline allotments are available a small expansion may be expected. Many small beekeepers who are in a position to carry on most of their apiary operations alone are making some effort to expand. On the other hand, some large operators have indicated that a lack of skilled labor may force them to reduce the number of colonies. A very large proportion of the southern package bee and queen producers have been booked up for this season for some time. These people are finding skilled labor especially difficult to obtain. In some sections there has been a fairly active demand for colonies with hives and equipment.

Supplies of domestic honey in the hands of beekeepers are becoming increasingly scarce, with a large proportion of that being held by beekeepers for local sale to retailers and consumers. In some sections of the country the retail demand for honey has dropped off recently, although this has not been reflected in any price decline. This may be partially accounted for by an increase in availability of various cane and sugar sirups and also some jams and jellies which sell at a per pound price somewhat below the current retail prices of honey. A large proportion of the f.o.b. bulk honey sales reported are at ceiling levels of 12¢ per lb. in case lots to carlots, and 15¢ per lb. direct to consumers. However, in all sections of the country some sales are being made at levels above these legal OPA maximum prices. Demand for beeswax continues active, with practically all sales reported at 41½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.



On page 8 of the report of January 15 under the heading "OPA Ceilings on Honey" the following statement was made: "Amendment 5 to the Order authorized payment on domestic processed honey of 1¢ per lb. and on imported honey of 1½¢ per lb. above the maximum price that could be paid for unprocessed honey." Some clarification of this may be desirable in that under the wording of amendment 5, "The maximum price for domestic bulk honey when sold by a person other than the producer thereof shall be as follows:" This clearly indicates that the producer is not eligible to charge these additional amounts. The beekeepers maximum f.o.b. price on bulk honey under the OPA regulation is 12¢ per lb., with sales direct to consumers at 15¢ per lb.

#### CALIFORNIA POINTS (Period Jan. 7-22):

Southern California. Generally unsettled weather conditions prevailed in southern California during the second half of January. As a whole rainfall was rather light, but much of the period was cloudy. Along the coast it was generally cool and damp; in the interior valleys nights were cool but days were warm, with some drying winds; while in the mountains there were moderate to fairly heavy snowfalls. Moisture conditions are still ideal for the most of this area. In San Diego County sage is beginning to grow well. Colonies are in good condition, with most queens beginning to lay. There was little for bees to work on, although they are obtaining pollen and a very little nectar from eucalyptus, early manzanita and mustard. Honey offerings during the period were mostly limited to small lots, with quotations generally at the ceiling of \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds f.o.b. country points. Deliveries during this period consisted of Sage-Buckwheat, Sage, Alfalfa, Cotton-Alfalfa, and Mixed Flowers. Moderate supplies of beeswax met with a good demand at 41½¢ per lb. cash and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. country points.

Central California. Rainfall has been below normal over much of Central California and cool nights with considerable frost have retarded early plant growth. Colonies appear in normal condition for this season of the year, although in some yards stores are becoming a little light. There has been some movement of bees into the orange sections of southern California. Eucalyptus is blooming in a limited way, but it has been too cool for any nectar secretion. Demand for honey continues good but offerings have been rather light, although there seems to be more honey available in central California than was the case a year ago when there was practically nothing left in this section. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Alfalfa, Alfalfa-Blue Curls, Alfalfa-Bean-Cotton, Lima Beans, and Mixed Flowers mostly 12¢ per lb., f.o.b. country points. Demand for beeswax continues active at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ in trade f.o.b. shipping point. Considerable wax is being traded at this time for foundation.

Northern California. Some rain fell over most of northern California during this period, which has improved moisture conditions and plant prospects. Cool weather has, however, retarded plant growth. In the southern part of this section broodrearing appears to be ahead of normal. In some colonies young adults are already appearing. A little pollen is available from mustard, cabbage, mistletoe, and chickweed. Movement of bees into the orchard sections has largely been completed. Offerings of honey were light, with sales f.o.b. shipping point generally at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb. on Alfalfa-Thistle and Mixed Flowers.

#### PACIFIC NORTHWEST (Period Jan. 7-22):

West of Cascades. During most of this period temperatures were above average with precipitation below normal both in the higher altitudes and the valleys. Some mild days with considerable sunshine permitted short flights and the gathering of a little pollen from filberts. Bees are wintering very well and honey plants appear in excellent condition. Supplies of honey in the hands of producers are reported to be practically gone. A few small lots of Vetch-Clover in 5-lb. pails sold at 19-20¢ per lb., and in 1-lb. glass jars at 24¢.

East of Cascades. Temperatures have been above average with very little precipitation. Snowfall in the mountains is somewhat lighter than normal. Bees were able to make a number of short flights, but there is nothing for them to work on. Colonies have wintered well, although in some yards stores are becoming very light and some feeding will be necessary before spring. A few small lots of extracted Alfalfa honey moved in case to ton lots at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb. f.o.b. shipping point. - continued -



INTERMOUNTAIN REGION (Period Jan. 8-23):

Precipitation continues deficient in all sections in the Intermountain area east of the Continental Divide and also in western Montana and Nevada. The coldest temperatures of the winter prevailed in Idaho, Utah and parts of Colorado. In the remainder of the area temperatures have been very satisfactory for the wintering of bees and no appreciable winter losses have been reported in any section. Very little honey remains in the hands of beekeepers in this area and most of that being held will be taken by local consumers and retailers. Numerous reports indicate that the retail demand for honey has decreased during recent weeks partially as a result of increased quantities of various cane sirups and jams and jellies, which are selling considerably below the per pound price of honey. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - Clover-Alfalfa, in case to ton lots 12-13¢, in single 60s mostly to consumers 14-15¢, mostly 15¢, in small pails 17-20¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 24¢. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. beekeepers.

Colorado. In the high mountains temperatures have been fairly low during this period, but on both the Western Slope and the Plains Area east to the Rockies temperatures have been somewhat above normal, with a number of days warm enough to permit bee flights. Precipitation has been light over practically all of Colorado and considerable concern is being felt over the dry soil conditions and the lack of snow in the mountains to provide irrigation water next summer. Bees are wintering fairly well, although in some yards the consumption of stores has been quite heavy as a result of the mild weather, and a few beekeepers have already found it necessary to feed some.

Wyoming. The weather has been generally favorable for wintering with temperatures averaging a little above normal and an occasional mild day to permit short flights. For the State as a whole precipitation to date has been rather light, although in some mountain areas there has been sufficient snow to insure a fair amount of irrigation water.

Montana. The winter to date over most of the State has been mild and dry with little snow in the mountains. Bees have had one or two good flights and appear to be wintering well, although some are getting a little short of stores especially where the hives were extracted too closely last fall.

Idaho. Weather during this period has been the coldest of the winter. In the Upper Snake River Valley most nights registered below zero temperatures, but farther west in the Snake River Valley weather was somewhat milder with an occasional mild, warm day. Bees are wintering fairly well. Most colonies went into winter quarters with ample stores and strong populations of young bees so that if a normal winter prevails from now on losses should not be any heavier than normal. Very little honey remains in this section.

Utah. Weather during the latter part of January was somewhat colder than previously during the winter. Bees have been confined during this entire period but from all appearances are wintering well and in most cases have ample stores. There is a fairly good snow pack in the mountains and in general moisture conditions are favorable.

Nevada. In the vicinity of Reno the weather continues cold and dry. Considerable additional snow will be needed to provide irrigation water. Bees are wintering satisfactorily and in a few yards limited broodrearing has been reported.

ARIZONA (Period Jan. 8-23):

Temperatures during most of this period were a little lower than average although on numerous days bees were able to fly and gather some pollen. Rainfall has been very light during recent weeks and much of the desert area is somewhat deficient in moisture so that unless additional rain falls in the near future prospects for early spring desert plants will not be too favorable. Very little honey is left in this section. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted - Cotton-Tamarisk in case to ton lots 12-12½¢ per lb., in small pails 15¢, in glass jars 20¢.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA (Period Jan. 10-25):

East and North East Texas. Over most of this area heavy rains continued during much of this period, with some snow as far south as Austin and San Antonio. Much of the last two weeks has been cold for this section of the country although there have been occasional days when bees could fly. Bees are in generally good condition but a few colonies will need feed soon. In the southeastern part of



the State bees are getting some pollen from elm. Queens are beginning to lay, and in some yards some sealed brood was noted. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Cotton 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ with cans returned.

Lower Rio Grande Valley. Moisture conditions are about normal although the top soil is getting a little dry. Deep-rooted plants are in fairly good condition. Broodrearing has decreased because of cooler weather. Bees are gathering a little pollen. Huisache is budding and should be in bloom in a week or ten days.

West and Southwest Texas. Much of this area has been unseasonably cold, with more rain than normal and some snow. Bees are in generally good condition. Plant prospects also are unusually good. In the southern part of the area agarita is budding and should bloom within two weeks. Several large sales of full colonies of bees with hives have been reported at \$10.00 each. Only small lots of honey remain in this section. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Mesquite, 1 carlot 12¢; Amber Mesquite-Alfalfa in single 60s to consumers 15¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 24¢; Extra Light Amber Sage in small pails 19 1/3-22¢, in small jars 24¢.

New Mexico. In the Mesilla Valley cold weather has prevailed for the past month or six weeks with only an occasional mild, sunny day. Rain and snow toward the end of this period should provide ample moisture for early wild flowers. Colonies which went into winter quarters in strong condition and with ample stores are wintering well.

Arkansas. The first week of this period was cold, but during the second week mild temperatures prevailed which permitted bees to fly nearly every day. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Amber Mixed Flowers in small jars 21¢.

#### PLAINS AREAS: (Period Jan. 10-25):

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. This period was abnormally mild with little or no snow, although there was a little rain which is unusual for this time of year. Considerable concern is being expressed over the shortage of soil moisture and the possibilities of damage to honey plants because of the lack of snow cover. Bees, both cellar and outdoor packed, are wintering well, but consumption of stores has been rather heavy as a result of the mild weather. One or two beekeepers report finding small patches of brood in one or two frames. Honey is quite closely sold up. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Clover in small pails 17¢.

Iowa. The weather continues mild and dry over practically all of Iowa. The deficiency in precipitation is becoming extreme and it is felt that unless heavy rain or snow falls within the near future that plants may be severely damaged. Bees have had frequent flights and have wintered well although in some yards consumption of stores has been fairly heavy. Broodrearing is beginning in a very limited way. The only sale reported was one large lot of extracted Clover in small pails at 17¢ per lb., f.o.b. shipping point. Beeswax moved well at the ceiling of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Kansas. The State as a whole has been rather dry although in parts of northeastern Kansas moisture conditions are now favorable. Temperatures have moderated considerably and all ice and snow has disappeared. Bees have had a number of flights recently and to all appearances are wintering well.

Nebraska. Drought conditions with unseasonably warm temperatures prevailed during most of this period. This has been very favorable for the wintering of bees, but unfavorable for plants and next season's honey prospects. In some yards the consumption of stores has been heavy and some spring feeding may be necessary. Brood has been observed on one to three frames in a number of yards.

Missouri. Most of this period was open and mild during the days, but moderately cold at night. Moisture conditions over most of the State are fairly good. There seems to be an extreme shortage of both white and sweetclover plants. Bees had their first opportunity in about six weeks to fly. Despite this fairly long confinement losses have been extremely light. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Light Amber Heartsease blend in single 60s 15¢, Clover and Mixed Flowers in small pails 19 1/3¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 24¢.



EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES (Period Jan. 11-27):

Michigan. The northern peninsula has had the mildest January in a good many years. Many fields are bare of snow and clover may be suffering some. Bees are quiet in the cellars and apparently have ample food stores. Weather was also mild on the southern peninsula, with very little rain or snow during the last 60 days. The ground is quite dry and deeply frozen without any snow cover. Clover plants do not seem to be suffering greatly, however, because of the fact that there has been little or no alternate freezing or thawing. Bees have been confined for some time, although in most sections of the State a good flight was obtained on January 26. Colonies are wintering well and in most cases have fair food stores. It is expected, however, that if the mild weather continues broodrearing may start early with the result that consumption of stores will be heavy later which will necessitate heavy spring feeding. The only sales reported were a few lots of extracted Clover in small pails at 19-19 1/3¢ per lb. and in pint jars at \$3.86 per doz. f.o.b. to beekeepers. Wax 41 1/2¢ per lb. cash and 43 1/2¢ per lb. in trade. There has been a fairly heavy demand for foundation, but rather limited offerings of beeswax.

Wisconsin. Mild temperatures prevailed during much of this period. Sub-soil moisture is very deficient, but recent rains in some parts of the State improved surface moisture conditions. The ground is quite deeply frozen, but

recent mild weather is rapidly taking the frost out of the ground. Young clover plants may have suffered some bad effects from the weather but established seedlings still appear in fairly good condition. Several good flights during this period have put bees in good condition and practically all colonies wintered out doors seem to be wintering well. Cellar packed bees are becoming quite restless. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s mostly to consumers 14 1/2-15¢, in small pails 19-21¢, in small jars 21-22¢. Beeswax mostly 41 1/2¢, a few low as 40¢ per lb. cash to beekeepers.

Minnesota. The ground continued very dry during most of this period. However, toward the end of the period a slow rain over most of Minnesota added a little to the surface soil moisture. There has been little or no precipitation in Minnesota since the fairly heavy snowfall of November 8. Temperatures have been considerably above normal, permitting a number of rather extended flights. Colonies are still in good condition, but consumption of stores has been fairly heavy and prospects are that bees will have to be watched closely to prevent losses, especially in those yards which were extracted too closely. Only a few small lot sales of extracted honey were reported in small pails at 19¢ per lb., and in glass jars at 22¢ per lb.

Ohio. Most of this period was mild with temperatures during the last few days of January high enough to permit good flights. Sub-soil moisture is still deficient and rainfall has been far below normal. However, there are no indications that clovers and other crops have suffered greatly. Most colonies are wintering fairly well, although some are deficient in stores and considerable spring feeding will be necessary.

Indiana. Most of Indiana continues very dry, but there is little indication that plants have suffered, although much additional rain will be needed. The forepart of this period was cold enough to keep bees confined, but toward the end of the period temperatures had moderated and bees flew on a number of days. General wintering conditions have been good to date, with little or no losses among bees.

Illinois. Unusually mild weather for this season prevailed during most of this period, with temperatures much of the time just cool enough to keep bees from flying but with an occasional day warm enough to permit good flights. All colonies seem to be wintering well. While sub-soil moisture is deficient, honey plants in most sections do not seem to be suffering at this time. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Clover-Heartsease in small pails 15¢.

Kentucky. In the mountains of eastern Kentucky both light rain and snow fell during this period. Temperatures have moderated sufficiently to permit bees to shift their clusters and make limited flights. Stores in most hives seem to be adequate. Honey plants as a whole are in fair condition.

NORTHEASTERN SECTION (Period Jan. 13-28):

New York. Temperatures toward the end of this period were high enough over most of the State to permit bees to obtain the first cleansing flight since November. In the Hudson River Valley there is still some snow on the ground and



moisture conditions are favorable, while in western and central New York there is little or no snow cover and sub-soil moisture is very deficient. Some sections have had a little rain during late January, but most of this was lost since the ground was frozen rather deeply. All colonies examined appear to be wintering very well. In general stores are ample, although some beekeepers report that stores are being depleted rapidly and some feeding will be necessary. Several fairly large lot sales were reported, although most beekeepers are out of honey except for such quantities as are being held to meet the local consumer and retail demand. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted Clover, in case to ton lots 12-13¢, in small pails 15¢; Buckwheat in case to ton lots mostly 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails and glass jars 18-19¢. Beeswax few sales 41¢ per lb. cash f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Vermont. In northern Vermont snow and rain fell during this period and temperatures rose above freezing for the first time in over a month. A fairly good snow cover protects clovers. Bees seem to be wintering well.

Connecticut. Bees appear to be wintering well with a few days toward the end of this period warm enough to permit extended flights.

New Jersey. The latter part of this period was unusually warm, permitting good flights. Colonies are wintering well. While the ground is bare of snow honey plants seem to be in good condition and moisture conditions are favorable.

Pennsylvania. The latter half of January was very mild, the ground has thawed to a fair depth, and light to moderate rains over much of the State have improved plant and moisture conditions. Bees seem to be wintering very well, so colonies are showing small patches of sealed brood. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Clover in single 60s 15¢; in small pails 17¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 20¢; Amber Mixed Flowers in single 60s 12-15¢. Comb honey few cases Clover \$6.00 per case of 24 sections.

#### SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period Jan. 13-28):

Maryland. A light snowfall covered the ground early in this period but subsequent mild temperatures removed the snow and took most of the frost out of the ground, causing some heaving of clovers. The last few days of the period were warm enough to give several consecutive flying days. Safe wintering now seems assured.

West Virginia. Spring-like weather prevailed toward the end of the period over much of West Virginia. In the mountains of the western part of the State colony clusters in some yards were considerably reduced by earlier cold weather. Plant conditions are normal but moisture is still a little deficient.

Virginia. This period was generally favorable for wintering and most colonies appear to be in good condition. Some colonies show sealed brood in from one to three frames. In general winter stores are ample.

North Carolina. Most bees went into winter in good shape and have apparently wintered well so far. Moisture and plant prospects now appear favorable.

South Carolina. Bees are in excellent condition, with sufficient stores which were gathered from the fall flow. Brood of all stages was noted in the vicinity of Clemson at the end of the period.

#### SOUTHEASTERN SECTION (Period Jan. 11-27):

Georgia. Good rains during the past two weeks have greatly improved moisture conditions in south Georgia. Cool weather retarded broodrearing somewhat, but queens are now laying in nearly all sections with pollen being gathered from maple, elm, and a few other early sources. Bees have wintered so far better than for several years and present prospects are very favorable. Many beekeepers are planning on making some increase this year ranging from 10 to 20 percent. Demand for package bees and equipment has been active recently.

Florida. Temperatures were too low during the early part of this period for much activity, but toward the end of the period broodrearing got actively under way with bees gathering heavy quantities of pollen from maple, elm, and some other early plants. A very little nectar is available in some sections. Bees are in unusually good condition, and honey plants appear very favorable. Only a few small lot sales were reported, with Amber Mixed Flowers in barrels at 12¢ per lb. and in 1-lb. glass jars at 18¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Alabama. Rain and cold prevailed during the first ten days of this period. The latter part of the period was mild, permitting bees to gather considerable pollen from alder. Broodrearing is beginning actively in most colonies.



Louisiana. In the southern part of the State conditions during this period were very satisfactory for bee flights and broodrearing. Average colonies have two to three frames of brood. Pollen has been gathered freely from willow, maple and elm, and a little nectar is in evidence from early bloom. The ground is saturated and clover is developing normally.

- - - - -

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of January. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where noted otherwise stated.

BOSTON: Arrivals: 1 car of 1500 cases extracted Iowa. No sales on local spot market.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by truck 352 lbs. Ill; no rail receipts reported.

COMB: No supplies on market.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales to brokers and other large users - ILLINOIS, White Clover, few available lots, 3-lb. jars \$8.22 per doz., 1-lb. jars \$3.01 per doz.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 41½-43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: Receipts: extracted approximately 3,000 lbs. Colo., 6,500 lbs. Idaho. Demand moderate, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers - COLORADO and IDAHO, Alfalfa-White Sweetclover, White to Water White, glass cases 24, 8-oz. \$3.39; cases 24, 1-lb. \$6.00-6.15; 12, 2-lb. \$5.63; 12, 2½-lb. \$6.90.

COMB: No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Receipts: approx. 400 lbs. Demand moderate, market steady.

Dealers paying Domestic crude 41½¢ per lb.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, extracted 180, 60-lb. cans Minn. White Sweet-Clovers, 200 lbs. beeswax.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand moderate, market firm at ceiling. Sales to wholesale grocers - ILL. - No. 1 blended honey 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04. Sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales f.o.b. beekeepers for Domestic crude, Light Yellow cash 41½¢; in trade 43½¢.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail Ohio 225 cans, origin not specified 1 car and 68,953 lbs.; by truck N.Y. 460 lbs. Supplies light. Demand exceeds supply, market firm, very few sales reported.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and manufacturers - Domestic, nothing offered in bulk. Imported, sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling prices as follows: 20,000 lbs. or over unprocessed 11½¢, processed 13¢; less than 20,000 lbs. but not less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 12½¢, processed 14¢; less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 13½¢, processed 15¢, plus freight.

BEESWAX: Arrivals: by boat origin not specified 28 bags. Supplies very light. Demand exceeds supply, market strong at ceiling. Sales by receivers - Port of entry: SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun-bleachable 41½¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by rail, 145,176 lbs. origin not specified.

Honey and beeswax: No offerings, no prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, extracted 6,935 lbs. bottled Midwestern. No offerings. No sales.

PORTLAND: Arrivals: by motor truck, from Oregon 6 tons Mixed Flowers; origin unreported 1 car by rail packed in barrels. Supplies light. Demand good, market firm. Sales to retailers and other large buyers, in case lots -

EXTRACTED: OREGON and IDAHO, Sweetclover-Alfalfa, Fireweed and Mixed Flowers, 12, 5-lb. glass jars \$12.48-12.52; 24, 16-oz. glass jars \$6.00-6.23; 24, 8-oz. glass \$3.30; 12, 2-lb. glass \$5.72. MEXICO, Mixed Flowers 6, 5-lb. jars \$5.80; 12, 5-lb. jars \$11.61.

COMB: No supplies.

BEESWAX: No change in prices or conditions. Demand holds good at ceiling.

ST LOUIS: Receipts light. Trading limited. Market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales by wholesalers and commission merchants to retailers-  
IOWA and COLORADO, Alfalfa and Mixed Flowers, 16-oz. jars, cartons per dozen  
Amber \$3.19, Light Amber \$3.27.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND and ALAMEDA: Receipts via truck - Central California-  
132 cases Light Amber Alfalfa, Bean, Cotton, 34 cases Light Amber Alfalfa,  
Blue Curls, 20 cases Light Amber Lima Bean, 26 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers;  
Northern California - 57 cases Light Amber Alfalfa Thistle; Southern California -  
210 cases Light to Extra Light Amber Buckwheat, 184 cases Extra Light Amber  
Sage Buckwheat.

EXTRACTED: The following quotations are from bottlers to wholesalers and  
other case lot buyers - 1-lb. glass jars 2 dozen per case \$5.04; 2-lb. glass  
jars 1 dozen per case \$4.76; 2½-lb. glass jars 2 dozen per case \$11.34;  
5-lb. glass jars or cans 1 dozen per case \$10.18.



WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
Office of Distribution

Telephone - REpublic 142,  
Extension 176

Washington 25, D. C.  
February 15, 1944.

LIBRARY  
CURRENT SERIAL RECORD

MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII - NO. 4

U. S. INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

SUMMARY

Precipitation continued rather light and temperatures somewhat above normal during the last week in January and first week in February. During the second week in February temperatures dropped over practically the entire northern half of the country and extended well into the south, with moderate to fairly heavy snowfall over the North Central and Plains Area and rain and snow in the Northwest, Northeast and Southeast. This rain and snow should reduce the moisture deficiency which existed over much of the northern half of the country, although in many of these sections the soil was very dry and considerable additional precipitation will be necessary before spring. The colder temperatures were beneficial in retarding premature development of vegetation, especially fruit buds which were coming on unusually early in many sections. The weather will also check abnormally early broodrearing over the northern portion of the country. In the Gulf Coast States some early trees are budding and blooming and vegetation is coming on quite rapidly. Broodrearing is becoming active and in the package and queen producing areas grafting of queen cells has already begun.

Bees appear to be wintering well in all sections of the country, with generally ample food stores. However the mild January and early February weather caused unusual activity of bees in some States which resulted in a heavy consumption of stores and will necessitate some feeding to carry bees through until spring. There is some question as to how well honey plants have gone through the winter, especially in the Plains and North Central areas where there has been little or no snow cover. Present indications are that the acreage of sweetclover available next season will be further reduced but in the Ohio Valley and eastern Plains area there seems to be some increase in white clover acreage. Infestation of clover weevil has been noticed in some new areas, especially in Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Minnesota.

Indications are that many amateurs or new beekeepers are exploring the possibilities of starting beekeeping this season. Package bee producers report many inquiries for only a few packages and also many inquiries as to methods of handling package bees. Among the larger commercial beekeepers and also among package and queen producers the shortage of skilled labor continues as a very serious factor toward expansion. Practically all southern package bee and queen producers have been booked to capacity for some time.

Revised WFB Order L-257, issued February 3 and effective July 1, 1944 authorizes the manufacture of beekeeping supplies, except hives, at 119 percent of the 1940 or 1941 production whichever is higher. Production of hives continues on an unlimited basis as previously. The scarcity of lumber, however, is causing some concern as to whether an adequate output of hives can continue for any extended period.

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period Jan. 22-Feb. 7)

Southern California. The weather has been very favorable for honey plants. Rainfall to mid-January was above normal, but during the past month has been below normal. Most colonies are in good condition both as to clusters and stores. Many hives have more than a normal amount of brood. Pollen is being gathered from mustard and nectar from eucalyptus and a little lemon bloom. There has been some movement of bees into the orange locations. Present indications are that oranges will bloom a little later than usual. In San Diego



County during the latter part of January as much as two feet of snow fell in the mountains at elevations of 6,000 feet, diminishing in depth to six inches at elevations at 1800 feet. In this section early spring vegetation has taken on a luxurious and thrifty growth. Demand for honey continued good with very light supplies. Sales f.o.b. shipping point extracted - Sage, Buckwheat, Alfalfa, and Cotton-Alfalfa \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds. Moderate supplies of beeswax moved rapidly at the ceiling of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. country points.

Central California. Over most of the central California area rainfall was about normal during this period. Temperatures were generally mild enough to permit flights except on rainy days. Plants are in generally favorable condition although growth of many has been somewhat delayed. Cover crop mustard is beginning to bloom and a little pollen and nectar is available from eucalyptus, manzanita, alder, and various early flowering shrubs. There has been some movement of bees to the almond and fruit sections. Honey stocks in producers' hands are becoming extremely light and no sales were reported during this period.

Northern California. The latter part of January was cold, foggy, and frosty. During early February fairly heavy rains fell and temperatures moderated so that annuals came on rapidly. While soil conditions have been greatly improved there is still some shortage of moisture over much of northern California. Bees appear to be wintering well with plenty of brood and ample stores in most places to carry them until spring. Bees are obtaining a little pollen from redwood, chickweed, Japanese quince, and mistletoe. Only a little honey remains in beekeepers hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Thistle and Mixed Flowers in case to ton lots 12¢. Demand for beeswax continues active, with practically no offerings, at the ceiling of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash or 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period Jan. 22-Feb. 7)

West of Cascades. The winter has been mild with very few days when temperatures dropped to freezing. In the Willamette Valley precipitation for the season to date is over 30 percent below normal. Snowfall in the higher altitudes has been light and there is little storage water available from that source. Cloudy skies and some rain kept bees confined much of the time although there were a number of days when they could make short flights and gather pollen from filberts and pussywillow. Colonies are in generally good condition so far as populations are concerned but many are short of stores and with early brood-rearing beginning considerable heavy feeding is anticipated. Producers' stocks of honey are extremely light and no f.o.b. sales were reported.

East of Cascades. Temperatures have been above average although morning frosts and light night freezes prevailed in most sections. Precipitation is below normal and snowfall negligible, both on the plains and mountain areas. Bees are wintering well with sufficient flights to maintain good health. Plants appear in generally normal condition. Honey supplies are very light and the only sales reported were Clover-Alfalfa in single 60s at 15¢ per lb., f.o.b.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period Jan. 23-Feb. 8)

Some snow over much of the Intermountain Region improved moisture prospects somewhat, although the snow pack in the mountains is still below normal and most of Montana and Wyoming continues rather dry. Bees are wintering well in all sections. In Montana and Wyoming abnormally early broodrearing has been reported, which increases the possibility of later losses from severe cold. Honey is quite closely cleaned up in this section, although retail demand has shown some decline, possibly as a result of larger quantities of sirups, jams and jellies which have been available since the first of the year. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- Clover-Alfalfa in case to ton lots and in carlots 12¢; in single 60s to consumers mostly around 15¢. Beeswax, 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash f.o.b. to beekeepers. Details by States follow:

Colorado. Moisture conditions were considerably improved over most of the State, with considerable snow in the mountains, although total snowfall for the season is still somewhat short of normal. On the plains areas of eastern Colorado the soil is still rather dry. Bees have been able to fly on a number of days and appear to be in good condition.



Wyoming. Some warm days during this period permitted bees to fly but many were lost on the snow.

Montana. To the end of this period there was little or no snow in either the valleys or mountains east of the Continental Divide. The weather has been warm enough so that bees have been very active. Some colonies have from three to five frames of brood, which is at least six weeks to two months earlier than normal. Consumption of winter stores has been heavy and many beekeepers, who did not leave a top super of honey on their hives, will have to feed before spring.

Idaho. While considerable cold weather prevailed in southern Idaho there have been a number of days on which bees could fly. Heavy winds were quite prevalent during this period. Most colonies seem to be wintering well and have ample stores.

Utah. Fairly heavy snows fell in the valleys of northern Utah, but snowfall in the mountains is still below normal. There were several days sufficiently warm for bees to make rather extended flights. Colonies in general seem to be wintering well, although reports continue to come in of losses of bees in some sections, apparently due to some form of poisoning.

Nevada. Weather during late January and early February was quite favorable with rain in the lower elevations and snow in the mountains. Precipitation to date is, however, far below normal.

ARIZONA: (Period Jan. 23-Feb. 8)

The weather has been warmer in southern Arizona and growth of desert plants has started. On warm days bees are bringing in considerable pollen, but so far little or no nectar is available. Broodrearing is becoming general. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Mesquite in single 60s 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. Beeswax 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period Jan. 25-Feb. 9)

East Texas. In the northeastern part of the State the early part of February was warm and bees stored fairly large quantities of pollen from elm. Broodrearing is progressing rapidly. Some concern is being expressed because of the early mild temperatures which are bringing on fruit bloom unusually early. Because of the large amount of moisture in January honey plants are in very good condition. In southeast Texas continued wet weather has caused some injury to ground flowers and cool, cloudy weather confined bees to their hives much of the time. Over all of east Texas colonies are in good condition and most of them have ample stores.

Lower Rio Grande Valley. Bees are obtaining pollen from huisache and a light nectar flow from elbow brush in the lower end of the Valley. Broodrearing is picking up rapidly, with the new supply of pollen and where stores of honey were left in the hive. There has been no rain since the last report and the top soil is becoming rather dry.

Southwest Texas. Much of the early part of February was mild and springlike. Some early fruit trees, such as peaches and plums, are beginning to bloom, and it will be only a short time until wild flowers will bloom in a general way. There is a good honey flow on from agarita which will aid colonies in building up for the main spring flow. Stronger colonies are showing up to four frames of brood. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Alfalfa-Mesquite in small pails 19 1/3¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 23-24¢. Beeswax 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash f.o.b. beekeepers.

New Mexico. In the Mesilla Valley Chinese elm started blooming during the first week in February, following two months of very cold weather. Bees are obtaining considerable pollen from this source. Some rain fell during the second week of February and moisture conditions are now favorable.

Oklahoma. In the vicinity of Stillwater bees were able to fly during the first week in February and obtained considerable pollen from elm and maple.

Arkansas. In northeastern Arkansas this period was dry and pleasant until February 8 when the heaviest rain of the winter fell. While this rain was sufficiently heavy to reach into the sub-soil there is still a shortage of moisture in this area.



PLAINS AREA: (Period Jan. 25-Feb. 9)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. A fairly good snow cover fell over most of the Red River Valley during most of this period and temperatures dropped to below zero. Some colonies showed some brood early in February but it is not yet known whether these colonies suffered from the recent cold. About the only honey moving in this section is that held by beekeepers for local sales. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in small pails 19¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 24¢.

Iowa. The early part of February was mild, with some rain. Around February 9 fairly heavy snow fell. There is still, however, a large moisture deficiency over most of the State. In western Iowa fruit buds are a little too far advanced for this season. Bees have generally wintered well, although mild temperatures have made cellar bees uneasy. Consumption of stores has been fairly heavy and it seems probable that many beekeepers will be faced with a shortage of stores. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Clover, in small pails, few sales 18-19 1/3¢. Beeswax, 43 1/2¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

South Dakota. Bees have had occasional flights and should be in fairly good condition. Additional moisture is needed to put honey plants in good condition.

Nebraska. The latter part of January and early February were unusually mild with some rain. A heavy snow fall on February 10 will further improve moisture conditions. Bees are in unusually good condition. Broodrearing is in progress somewhat earlier than usual. This will result in an unusually heavy consumption of stores and necessitate some early spring feeding. In fact a few beekeepers have already fed sugar sirup. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Sweetclover-Alfalfa, in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15-16¢, mostly 15¢.

Kansas. The weather was mild during this entire period. Bees gathered some pollen from early maple. Many colonies have brood in four to five frames. Some colonies have already required feeding and indications are that if the mild weather continues early spring feeding will become generally necessary. This period was abnormally warm. Bees gathered pollen from maple and early elm. Many colonies have brood in three to four frames and occasional young bees are noted. Fruit trees are budding abnormally early so that later cold spells may cause considerable damage. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Clover, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 19¢.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period Jan. 27-Feb. 11)

Michigan. The snow cover has been extremely light on both the upper and lower peninsulas. Bees are wintering well. Temperatures have been low enough to keep them confined much of the time, although they have obtained occasional good flights. So far there seems to be little broodrearing. There has been general concern over the short acreage of sweetclover, but indications are there will be more white clover than in some seasons, so with favorable spring and early summer weather nectar sources should be ample. The only sales reported were of extracted White Clover in 5-lb. pails at 19¢ per lb.

Wisconsin. Temperatures during the early part of this period were above normal, permitting considerable flight and causing abnormally early broodrearing in many colonies. Around February 10 a cold wave struck with temperatures falling to zero or below and with some snow over most of the State. Colonies seem to be wintering unusually well, although the recent cold will likely kill some brood. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - White Clover, in case to ton, lots 12¢, in single 60s 14 1/2-15¢, in small pails 18-22¢. Beeswax, 40-41 1/2¢, mostly 41 1/2¢ per lb. cash to beekeepers.

Minnesota. The unseasonably mild weather of January and early February was broken by a cold wave on February 10 and 11 with temperatures as low as 25 below zero in northern Minnesota and 10 below in southern Minnesota. Bees have had numerous winter flights and most colonies appear to be in good condition. The recent cold should be beneficial in that it will check the premature start of vegetation and unusually early broodrearing. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - White Sweetclover in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. pails and glass jars 17 1/2-20¢, mostly around 19¢.

Ohio. Most of this period continued dry with temperatures somewhat above normal. However, on February 10 and 11 considerable snow fell over northern Ohio which should improve moisture conditions. Despite the long winter



drought clover plants appear in fairly good condition. Infestation of clover weevil has been reported from two widely separated sections of the State. Bees have had a number of good flights and in general are wintering well, although in some yards where a heavy fall aster flow was used for winter feed clusters are small and there have been signs of dysentery. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - White Clover, in small pails 15-19¢; comb- White Clover, few sales, mostly around \$6.00 per case.

Indiana and Illinois. Light rains and a fairly good snowfall toward the end of this period have greatly improved moisture conditions. Temperatures during most of the period were above normal although cool enough to keep bees confined much of the time. Bees are apparently wintering well.

Kentucky. The early part of this period in north central Kentucky was unseasonably warm permitting extensive flights. There has been no snow cover and very little rain. Bees are apparently in good condition, with only a moderate consumption of stores to date. The condition of honey plants remains only fair and considerable additional rainfall will be needed.

#### NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Jan. 28-Feb. 12)

New York. Over central and western New York the snow cover continues light and there is still a marked moisture deficiency. In the Hudson River Valley and northeastern New York there has been some rain and light snow fall. Temperatures have remained moderately cold, although in most sections bees have been able to make one or two flights. In most sections bees are wintering satisfactorily. In western New York winter wheat has been damaged in some sections and there is a possibility that there will be some loss of honey plants. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - mostly in small lots, Clover, in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. pails 17-20¢, in 1-lb. glass 20-23¢; Buckwheat in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 14-15¢, mostly 15¢, in 5-lb. pails 16-21¢.

Vermont. In northern Vermont the weather continues very cold with a good snow cover. Bees are apparently wintering well despite the fact that they have not had a flight since early November. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Clover, in small pails 17¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢.

Connecticut. Steady cold weather has kept bees confined for several weeks. The ground is bare and the water table very low. Considerable additional moisture will be needed to put honey plants in good condition for next season.

New Jersey. Moderate winter weather prevailed throughout this period with an occasional day warm enough to permit good flights. The early part of the period was dry but on February 11 and 12 a fairly good snow fall covered most of the State. Bees are wintering well and using only moderate amounts of food stores.

Pennsylvania. Moisture is still needed over most of Pennsylvania, although a fairly good snow fall on February 11 and 12 should improve moisture conditions slightly. Temperatures have been mild and bees seem to be wintering well. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Clover, in case to ton lots 12½¢, in small pails 20¢.

#### SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES (Period January 28-February 12)

Maryland. The early part of February was mild, permitting frequent flights. On February 11 and 12 cold weather with sleet and snow again confined bees. Colonies are in good condition.

Virginia and West Virginia. Weather during this period was very favorable for bees, with frequent flying days. Colonies are wintering well and in most cases stores appear to be ample to carry through to spring.

South Carolina. Bees have been able to fly during much of this period. Broodrearing started in many hives about February 1. In the lower half of the State red maple is beginning to bloom. Bees have been getting a little nectar and pollen from fragrant honeysuckle.

#### SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Jan. 27-Feb. 11)

Georgia. Warmer weather during late January and early February rapidly expanded broodrearing which is now normal for this season of the year. In most yards there are an abundance of spring stores. Bees are gathering pollen and also a little nectar from maple, elm, and early spring shrubs. Some rain fell over most of the State, but some additional moisture is needed to put the soil in best condition for next season.

Florida. Bees are in unusually good condition in practically all sections of the State. Warm weather during late January and early February greatly increased broodrearing and bee flights. In north Florida many strong colonies now have hatching brood. In south Florida bees are making a living from pennyroyal and farther north they are gathering pollen and some nectar from strawberries, maple and numerous early shrubs. Practically all colonies have ample stores to carry them through until the main spring flows. Present prospects appear good for the ti-ti flow in northern Florida which should begin around March 1. Over much of the State the soil is unusually dry and considerable rainfall will be needed to put plants in prime condition.

Alabama. Colonies are in good condition. Broodrearing is becoming active and bees are bringing in large quantities of pollen. In west central Alabama wild plums are about ready to bloom. Present conditions are very favorable for production of package bees. Bees have so far wintered extremely well and most colonies have ample stores and large numbers of young bees. Along the Gulf Coast, elm, maple, and huckleberry are in full bloom and providing large quantities of pollen and a little nectar. Some colonies have five to six full frames of brood.

Louisiana. In the vicinity of Shreveport bees are wintering well with a normal consumption of stores. Some young brood is present. Pollen is being gathered from elm on warm days. The soil is saturated with moisture and young honey plants are growing rapidly although they are later than usual. Colonies started from package bees late last fall are on the verge of starvation with heavy feeding in prospect if they are to be built up in time for the main honey flow. In southern Louisiana the weather was mild with some rain. Bees, however, have flown nearly every day and gathered considerable pollen from maple, elm, willow, and various ornamentals. Early fruit trees are just beginning to bloom. Broodrearing is rapidly expanding and most hives now have about all the bees can take care of until more young bees emerge. Grafting of queen cells has started.

#### TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of February. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals reported. Nothing available on spot wholesale markets. No sales reported.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by rail, origin not specified, 1 car; by truck 240 lbs. Ill., 792 lbs. Wis.

COMB: Supplies very light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales to retailers - WISCONSIN, cases 24 sections, White Clover cellophane-wrapped, few \$7.20 per case.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales to brokers and other large users - ILLINOIS, White Clover, cases 2 dozen, 1 lb. jars \$6.02 per case.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 41½-43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: Receipts: honey approx. 6,000 lbs. Colo.; beeswax approximately 5500 lbs.

EXTRACTED: Demand slow, market steady. Sales to jobbers and large retailers - COLORADO and IDAHO, Alfalfa and White Sweetclover, White to Water White, glass, cases of 24, 8-oz. \$3.39, case of 24, 1-lb. \$6.00-6.15, 12, 2-lb. \$5.65; case 12, 2½-lb. \$6.90.

COMB: No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Demand moderate, market steady. Dealers paying 41½¢ per lb. cash for domestic crude.

: The mailing list for the Semi-Monthly Honey Report was circularized several :  
: weeks ago. If you wish to receive the report in the future and have not al- :  
: ready replied to the circularization please do so, as all names not returned :  
: will be dropped after this issue. :

- continued -



MINNEAPOLIS: No arrivals extracted, comb or wax.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Market about steady to firm at ceiling. Sales to wholesale grocers - U. S. No. 1 Blended honey 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75.

COMB: No sales reported.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail, origin not specified 85,800 lbs. and 3 cars; by truck 460 lbs. N.Y. Supplies light. Demand exceeds supply, market firm, very few sales reported.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and manufacturers - Domestic, nothing offered in bulk. Imported, sales made f.o.b. Port of entry at ceiling prices as follows: 20,000 lbs. or over unprocessed 11½¢, processed 13¢; less than 20,000 lbs. but not less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 12½¢, processed 14¢; less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 13½¢, processed 15¢, plus freight.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Demand exceeds supply, market strong at ceiling. Sales by receivers port of entry- SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun bleachable 41½¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by rail extracted 33,600 lbs. Iowa. Honey and beeswax no offerings. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, extracted 1434 lbs. bottled Midwestern. No offerings. No sales.

PORTLAND: Arrivals: extracted, origin not specified, 1 car via rail in barrels; via motor truck, Oregon 20, 60-lb. cans Mixed Flowers. Supplies light. Demand exceeds supply, market firm with no change in prices.

EXTRACTED: OREGON and IDAHO, Sweetclover, Alfalfa, Fireweed and Mixed Flowers, 12, 5-lb. glass jars \$12.48-12.52; 24, 16-oz. glass jars \$6.00-6.23; 24, 8-oz. glass \$3.30; 12, 2-lb. glass \$5.72. MEXICO, Mixed Flowers 6, 5-lb. jars \$5.80; 12, 5-lb. jars \$11.61. CUBA, barrels; Mixed Flowers Light Amber bulk 17¢ per lb.

COMB: No supplies.

BEESWAX: Prices unchanged at ceiling.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts light. Trading limited. Market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales by wholesalers and commission merchants to retailers - IOWA and COLORADO, Alfalfa and Mixed Flowers, cartons, 16-oz. jars, Light Amber \$3.27 per dozen.

SAN FRANCISCO: Receipts: from Northern California by truck - 63 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers.

EXTRACTED: The following quotations are from bottlers to wholesalers and other case lots buyers- 1-lb. glass jars 2 dozen per case \$5.04; 2-lb. glass jars 1 dozen per case \$4.76; 2½-lb. glass jars 2 dozen per case \$11.34; 5-lb. glass jars or cans 1 dozen per case \$10.18.

#### CANADIAN HONEY STORAGE

(By Dominion Dept. of Agriculture, Marketing Service)

Following are honey storage holdings in pounds as of Feb. 1, 1944, together with comparative figures for a year ago:

	CONSUMER		BULK	
	CONTAINERS		CONTAINERS	
	1943	1944	1943	1944
Halifax - - - - -	--	--	--	--
Saint John- - - - -	1,300	5,000	14,900	11,300
Quebec City - - - - -	--	--	--	--
Montreal - - - - -	5,342	65,696	11,940	--
Ottawa - - - - -	288	--	--	--
Toronto - - - - -	100,500	83,000	510,992	884,804
Winnipeg- - - - -	290,226	359,000	58,271	216,620
Regina - - - - -	16,848	4,800	--	--
Saskatoon - - - - -	1,080	--	--	--
Edmonton - - - - -	28,320	15,987	--	3,000
Lethbridge - - - - -	33,840	1,056	--	--
Calgary - - - - -	--	52,658	--	108,579
Vancouver - - - - -	81,909	79,390	226,283	271,654

\* Includes 20,060 lbs. Mexican.





1-7  
770 344  
Reserve

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
Office of Distribution

Telephone - REpublic 4142,  
Extension 2176.

Washington 25, D. C.  
March 1, 1944.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII - NO. 5

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

SUMMARY

Moisture conditions were somewhat improved during this period in practically all sections of the country. Heavy rainfall prevailed over most of California, with moderate to heavy rains over the Southeastern States except for Florida, where the soil is still somewhat dry. Light to moderate rain and snowfall prevailed over most of the northern half of the country, but precipitation is still considerably below normal over this area from the Pacific Northwest to New England.

Broodrearing is becoming active over the southern belt. In the Southeast the season is a little ahead of normal and present broodrearing prospects are better than normal. Labor shortages may, however, reduce the total volume of packages and queens produced. In all sections of the country bees have wintered unusually well, with only limited winter losses. In most sections honey stores are still ample to carry through to the early spring flows, although some feeding will have to be done in some areas. The orange flow is beginning in Florida, early deciduous fruits are blooming in many of the Southern States and maple and elm are coming out as far north as the Ohio Valley. Present prospects are now unusually favorable for the spring flows. In the clover belt sweetclover will be short this season but in many areas white clover will be more plentiful than last season.

Reports from all sections of the country indicate that little honey remains in the hands of beekeepers. However, retail and wholesale demand for honey has shown a sharp decline, due to much heavier offerings of various sirups - and sirup mixtures which are selling at per pound prices considerably below honey. Many packers and bottlers who were practicing more or less voluntary rationing of supplies among their customers to extend their marketing season have found that retailers are not now taking the full quotas available to them. In general ceiling f.o.b. prices still prevail on both honey and beeswax.

No restrictions of honey container sizes are planned by the War Food Administration as a result of a survey by a Honey Industry Food Advisory Committee task group. The survey indicated that restrictions on container sizes to one pound and one-half pound jars as requested by the National Honey Association are not favored. The Association said small container sizes would divert more honey to commercial packers and subsequently to urban markets where light supplies were reported. However, urban supplies are now reported ample for current demands. The survey also revealed unanimous objection to honey rationing. Restrictions on container sizes were preferred by the industry to rationing. The Office of Price Administration recently announced honey as not being considered for rationing at an early date.

- - - - -

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period Feb. 7-22)

Southern California. Moderate to heavy rainfall and snow accompanied by considerable wind were general over southern California during the latter half of February. Temperatures ranged from normal to below normal. Crop damage from excessive rain and cold so far is considered very light. Broodrearing is well started in the hill areas and somewhat advanced in the orange districts. Cool weather is holding back developments of the orange bloom so some feeding may be necessary in view of the early broodrearing. There has been a rather heavy movement of bees from the hill areas to the citrus section.

Bees in the hills are gathering pollen from willow, choke cherry, manzanita, and filaree, buckthorn, wild gooseberry and poison oak, while in the valleys both pollen and nectar are being gathered from eucalyptus, wild kale and mustard. Plant conditions are very promising with sage and buckwheat plants in generally good condition. F.o.b. supplies of honey continued light, with a fairly good demand at ceiling prices. Deliveries by beekeepers during the latter half of February were principally small lots of Sage-Buckwheat, Alfalfa, Cotton-Alfalfa, Sage, and Mixed Flowers at \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds, f.o.b. shipping point. Beeswax continued in good demand at the ceiling of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ in trade f.o.b. country points.

Imperial Valley. Good rains during this period have greatly improved moisture and plant conditions. Colonies averaged two to four frames of sealed brood. Flax is starting to bloom and should provide considerable pollen and nectar for the next thirty days.

Central California. Good rains prevailed over much of central California. Some sections had some fairly heavy frosts. Broodrearing has actively started and most colonies are in strong condition. Considerable pollen and some nectar are being gathered. In the San Joaquin Valley almonds were in full bloom around February 25 and peaches and plums were developing rapidly. Cover crops, eucalyptus, manzanita, bay, laurel, pussywillow, and fiddleneck were also yielding. Movement of bees to the almond and deciduous sections has been practically completed, with more than the usual number of hives rented for pollination purposes at 75¢ to \$1.00 per hive. Plant growth is about normal, although most varieties are a little late in blooming. Relatively little honey is left in the hands of producers in this section, although reports indicate a few fair sized lots may be available. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - Alfalfa, Bean, Blue Curls, and Cotton 12¢ per lb., in case to ton lots. Beeswax 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b.

Northern California. Precipitation was fairly heavy during most of this period, with considerable snow in the mountains. Below normal temperatures are retarding plant growth, although in general plant conditions are good. Most colonies are in normal condition, with large quantities of brood and some young bees. Indications are that bees in the Sacramento Valley will be swarming before the package season. Almonds are beginning to bloom, and some pollen and nectar are available from mustard, chickweed, and willow. Many colonies are now in the almond sections, practically all rented at around \$1.00 per hive. A large percentage of these bees will later be moved to the prune areas. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Thistle in case to ton lots 12¢. Beeswax, 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

#### PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period Feb. 7-22)

West of Cascades. In the Willamette Valley temperatures have been average for this season, with February precipitation 33 percent below normal. Present soil moisture conditions are good, but there is a seasonal shortage of both rainfall and snowfall in the mountains. Bees have been able to make short flights and gather pollen from pussywillow, filberts, and wild hazel.

East of Cascades. Good wintering weather continues. Nights have been cool with fairly heavy frosts, but daytime temperatures in the lowlands were moderate. In the higher altitudes there was considerable snowfall with low temperatures, but storage moisture is still below requirements. In the Columbia River basin bees have been able to make short flights and are reported in fairly strong condition. Very little winter loss of bees has been reported and food stores now appear ample in most cases to carry through until spring.

Supplies of honey in beekeepers' hands are very light, both east and west of the Cascades, and no f.o.b. sales were reported during this period.

#### INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period Feb. 8-23)

Over most of this area temperature were somewhat lower during the latter part of February than had been the case earlier in the winter. Some additional snow fell in the Rockies, especially in Colorado and western Wyoming, but for the area as a whole precipitation to date is still considerably below normal. Broodrearing is beginning in a limited way. Bees have wintered fairly well east of the Rockies, but in Idaho and northern Utah some winter losses have been reported. Supplies of honey in beekeepers' hands continue very light. On the other hand, retail and wholesale demand for honey has shown a sharp decrease



during recent weeks, largely due to increased quantities of sirups and preserves selling considerably below prevailing prices of honey. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Alfalfa-Clover, in single 60s to consumers mostly 15¢; in 5-lb. pails 19-22¢. Beeswax 41<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢ per lb., cash, and 43<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢ per lb., in trade, f.o.b. to bookkeepers.

Colorado. Most of the western half of the State had fair snow falls during this period, which will add to the availability of storage water but the snow pack is still lighter than usual. The eastern portion of the State is still very deficient in both rainfall and snow. Temperatures were moderately cold, although there were frequent days warm enough to permit flight. Broodrearing is beginning in a limited way and consumption of stores is becoming heavier. In general bees have wintered fairly well and a large percentage of colonies have sufficient stores to carry them to the dandelion flow.

Wyoming. Temperatures were generally moderately cold during this period with some sections of the State reporting some sub-zero weather. Some additional snow has fallen which will improve plant prospects. So far bees have wintered well. Some colonies appear to be short of stores and some spring feeding may be necessary.

Montana. The snow cover is unusually light over the entire State, with very little snow in the valleys and on the plains. Because of this plant prospects are not too favorable at this time. Temperatures have been cold in the mountains, but over the rest of the State have been above normal so that bees have wintered unusually well.

Idaho.— The latter part of February was cold in the Upper Snake River Valley, with many nights below zero. In this section it is becoming apparent that loss of colonies will be heavier than had been anticipated due partly to inferior stores. Much of the late honey last season was dark and contained considerable honeydew. In this section the bees have been confined without flight for as much as three months in some cases. In those sections which produced the usual high quality of white honey little loss is anticipated. In the western part of the State the weather has been somewhat milder and bees have had rather frequent flights.

Utah. \_ The weather was somewhat colder during the early part of this period. There is a fairly heavy snow cover over most of eastern Utah, while in northern and western Utah the snow blanket is somewhat lighter. Reports continue to come in of fairly heavy losses from poisoning. On the other hand, winter losses among colonies which were not affected by poisoning have been rather light.

Nevada. While Nevada has had some storms during this period, moisture other most of the State is still somewhat deficient and heavy spring rains will be needed to produce a good growth of desert vegetation.

ARIZONA: (Period Feb. 8-23)

Most of this period was exceptionally cool with considerable rain in the valleys of southern Arizona. Plant and apiary conditions now look promising. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Alfalfa, 1-cv 12¢; Mesquite in single 60s few 13<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢, in small pails few 19¢. Beeswax, 41<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period Feb. 9-24)

Northeast and East Texas. Temperatures during this period were generally mild but rainfall was much heavier than normal. Farm work is being greatly delayed because of rain and wet fields. Red bud, fruit trees, elm, and oak are blooming a little earlier than normal and bees have been able to gather pollen and some nectar on fair days. Broodrearing is advancing rapidly. In general colonies are in much better condition to produce package bees than normal, although some hives will have to be closely watched to provide ample stores. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Cotton, in case lots 11<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>¢, with cans returned.

Southeast Texas. Condition of bees is unusually good. New pollen supplies are abundant and some nectar has been available which has greatly increased brood. Mountain laurel, nettle, Mexican persimmon, and some other early shrubs are also yielding. Huajillo is loaded with buds and catsclaw is showing cattails. The sale of a fairly large lot of hives and bees was reported at \$10.00 per colony. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.- extracted: Mesquite- Alfalfa in small pails 19¢, in 1-lb. glass jars to grocers 23¢; Mixed Flowers Amber in single 60s 11¢. - over -

Lower Rio Grande Valley. Light rains during this period improved moisture conditions somewhat, although more rain would be beneficial. Brood-rearing is progressing rapidly. Citrus is beginning to bloom so with increased nectar supplies broodrearing should soon be in full swing. Some colonies are becoming rather low on stores. Colony strength is generally only medium, although some colonies are unusually strong for this season.

Southwest Texas. Considerably more rain than normal has fallen during January and February and plants are in unusually good condition. Mild weather now prevails and broodrearing is getting under way. Present prospects point to an early spring flow.

New Mexico. In the Mesilla Valley the early part of this period was cold, but the latter portion was warm and rainy. Bees have brought in considerable pollen on favorable days and are building up rapidly.

Arkansas. Sufficient rain fell during recent weeks to provide fairly ample sub-soil moisture. Bees have been fairly active and are obtaining some early pollen.

PLAINS AREA: (Period Feb. 9-25)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. The weather in this area continues rather mild, with little or no snow remaining. Snowfall this winter has been unusually light and considerable additional moisture will be needed. Early reports indicate that bees have wintered well with very light winter losses. Consumption of stores has been a little heavier than usual because of the mild weather and some colonies may require feeding. Very little honey remains in the hands of beekeepers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Clover and Mixed Flowers in small pails 17-19¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 24¢. Comb No. 2 wrapped few sales \$4.80 per case of 24 sections.

Iowa. Considerable rain and snow during this period has greatly improved moisture conditions, although some additional precipitation is needed. While considerable cold weather prevailed over much of the State there were a few warm days on which short flights could be obtained. Bees are wintering fairly well. Honey is largely out of beekeepers' hands, but a little better demand for beeswax has been reported. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted: Clover in case to ten lots 12¢, in small pails 17-18¢. Beeswax, 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb., cash to beekeepers.

Nebraska. Fairly heavy snows fell around the middle of February, followed by some rain which will greatly improve moisture and plant conditions. Temperatures dropped in some places to as low as 20-25 degrees below zero. On the other hand, there were a number of warm, mild days which permitted flight. Some loss of bees is expected from cold since broodrearing had begun unusually early and in some yards had become quite active. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Alfalfa-Clover, in case lots 13¢, in single 60s to consumers 15¢.

Kansas. The early part of this period was cold but was followed with rain and snow and higher temperatures which permitted considerable flights. Bees are in unusually good condition, and winter losses to date have been very light. In southeastern Kansas bees were observed working on soft maple on February 23. Broodrearing has been in progress since early February. For the State as a whole it is anticipated that no great amount of feeding will be necessary. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted: Clover, in small pails 18¢. Beeswax 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash to producers.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period Feb. 11-25)

Michigan. Although weather was somewhat colder during this period with temperatures on several occasions around zero, the winter continues milder than normal with a large deficiency in moisture. Some rain and snow during the latter half of February have improved moisture conditions somewhat. Bees have had one or two good flights and appear to be wintering very well so far. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Clover in small pails 19-20¢.

Wisconsin. The early part of this period was cold, with temperatures dropping to zero or below in many localities. During the latter part of the period considerable rain and wet snow fell so that the moisture deficiency should be somewhat relieved for the time being at least. In southern Wisconsin colonies have had a number of good flights, but in the northern part of the State they have been confined for some time. In all sections, however, colonies which had good clusters and ample food stores last fall are wintering unusually



well. Losses from nosema have been much lighter than during the last two winters. Many colonies have already exhausted their pollen reserves and reduced broodrearing may be expected during the next six weeks unless pollen or pollen supplements are made available. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Clover, in single 60s 14½-15¢; in 5-lb. pails 17-22¢, mostly 18-20¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 22-23 ¾¢. Beeswax, 41-41½¢, mostly 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. beekeepers.

Minnesota. The early part of this period was cold with a number of sub zero days, while the latter part was mild with some rain and snow. Moisture conditions are somewhat improved although there is still an overall moisture deficiency in most areas. Bees have wintered very well, although in many yards consumption of stores has been heavy and considerable spring feeding will be necessary unless heavy early spring flows develop. There has been a heavy demand for supplies of package bees, with many orders from beginners and amateurs. Present indications point to a greatly reduced sweetclover crop in this State this year.

Ohio. Considerable rain and some snow over practically all of Ohio greatly improved moisture conditions. The latter part of the period was very mild, permitting occasional flight. In the southern part of the State some maple are already in bloom and elm buds are beginning to develop. Over the State as a whole bees seem to be wintering better than for a number of years, although many colonies whose stores consisted of late fall honey have rather small clusters and some are showing signs of dysentery. Broodrearing is getting under way in most colonies. Present prospects point to a somewhat reduced acreage of clover, although clover seem to have come through the winter in fairly good condition. Little honey remains in producers' hands and no f.o.b. sales were reported.

Indiana. The early part of this period was rather cold, with some below zero temperatures accompanied by fairly heavy snows. Toward the end of the period temperatures moderated to melt the snow and some rainfall added to the moisture supplies. The ground is now fairly well saturated. Clovers appear in excellent condition. Sweetclover and alfalfa are not as plentiful as in recent years, but alsike and white Dutch clover are plentiful. Bees had a number of good flights during this period and are wintering well so far with little or no loss reported in most yards.

Illinois. Moderate rain and snowfalls around the middle of February greatly improved moisture and plant conditions. The end of this period was warm with a number of days suitable for flight. So far wintering appears to be normal or slightly better than normal. Most colonies still have sufficient stores although some beekeepers have already found a little feeding necessary. Some additional quantities of buckwheat honey have come on the market recently but supplies of clover honey in producers' hands are rather light. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Clover and Buckwheat, in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s and bulk to consumers 15¢.

Kentucky. The heaviest snowfall of the winter over much of Kentucky greatly improved moisture and plant prospects. This snow was followed by good rains. Early spring growth has begun. In north central Kentucky bees were gathering pollen from maple. In this section losses appear to be around 10 percent, mostly among late swarms and package bees which were installed late in the season. Due to the earlier mild winter consumption of stores has been fairly heavy and some early feeding may be necessary. No sales of honey were reported, but beeswax moved at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb., cash, and 43½¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. shipping point.

#### NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Feb. 12-26)

New York. Much of the State was covered with snow during most of this period. In northern and eastern New York snow was fairly deep and plant and moisture prospects appear favorable. In western New York snowfall was rather light and there is still a marked deficiency in seasonal precipitation, although lake and stream levels are now higher than a month ago. In northern New York bees have not had a good flight for some time, while in the balance of the State occasional flying days have kept them in fairly good condition. Winter losses do not now appear to be heavy in any section. Prospects are that some feeding will be necessary. Offerings of honey by beekeepers have been light, but demand has shown some decline. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, extracted, per lb. - Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 18-19¢, in

over -



1-lb. jars 21-22¢; Buckwheat in single 60s to consumers 15¢. Comb, Clover No. 1 wrapped \$6.00 per case of 24 sections. Beeswax, 41¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Vermont. In northern Vermont the weather has moderated to around freezing, but is still too cool for flight. Considerable snow covers the ground. In the southern part of the State moisture conditions are not quite so favorable and there is considerably less snow on the ground. Demand for honey is reported good, with sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Clover in small pails 17¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢.

Connecticut. Bees had a very good flight on February 24 and normal colonies appear to be in fine condition. A few colonies will need feeding before the spring flows. While recent rains have improved moisture conditions, some additional precipitation is needed. Demand has been unusually good for comb honey, with little or none available and no sales reported.

New Jersey. Temperatures during this period were somewhat above normal with some rain. Moisture conditions in most sections are favorable. Bees had good cleansing flights on February 24 and appear to be wintering excellently.

Pennsylvania. Toward the end of the month fairly heavy rains removed most of the light snow blanket which covered Pennsylvania early in the month, and greatly improved moisture conditions. Honey plants are still in generally good condition, although alternate freezing and thawing with no snow on the ground may injure the plants by heaving during the next few weeks. Supplies of honey are light, but retail demand has also declined during recent weeks. No sales were reported.

#### SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period Feb. 12-26)

Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia. In Maryland, West Virginia and the northern portion of Virginia the first few days of this period were moderately cold but temperatures soon moderated and permitted frequent flights. Some pollen was being gathered from maple, alder, and pussywillow. Present indications are that bees have wintered well, although some spring feeding will be necessary in many yards. Moisture conditions have been greatly improved by rain and some light snow. In the Tidewater section of Virginia bees flew actively on a number of days and gathered large amounts of pollen. Broodrearing is progressing very satisfactorily in this section as most hives have ample honey stores. At present weather conditions in the Tidewater section are very favorable for a good spring flow.

North Carolina. Toward the end of this period bees were flying actively and gathering large quantities of pollen. Early planted crimson clover looks good but much of the late planted clover failed. It is expected that in some sections nectar from poplar may be scarce due to heavy logging of this timber.

South Carolina. The first half of this period was cold, stormy and generally unfavorable for bees. During the latter part of the period warmer weather prevailed with some rain, although bees were able to obtain a number of good flights. In the upper half of the State hives average around three frames of brood with young bees emerging in some. Pollen has been plentiful from fragrant honeysuckle and silver maple. Red maple has past full bloom.

#### SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Feb. 11-25)

Georgia. Warm rains followed by warm fair weather have started bees and early honey plants in fine condition. In south Georgia enough early nectar is coming in to start comb building and capping of new honey. No swarming has been reported but broodrearing is heavy. Ti-ti is just beginning to bloom, and the fruit bloom is at its height in the southern part of the State. As a whole prospects, both from the standpoint of plant and apiary conditions, are the most promising in a number of years. The season is a little earlier than usual.

Florida. The early build up of bees has been good and most colonies have heavy supplies of brood and many young bees. The orange flow is getting under way and present indications are that it will be quite heavy. Some hives have already stored a little surplus. In south Florida the soil is becoming quite dry and considerable additional moisture is needed. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted: Amber Mixed Flowers in small pails 16¢.

Alabama and Mississippi. Bees are in good condition with unusually large supplies of brood and young bees. Considerable honey is being gathered in the southern part of these States from ti-ti. Some colonies are reported close to the swarming state.

- continued -



Louisiana. Frequent rains during this period accompanied by high temperatures for this season of the year have stimulated plant growth. In the extreme southern part of the State some colonies are already storing honey in the second super. Pollen supplies have been unusually heavy. Broodrearing is active and practically all colonies are building up rapidly where queens are vigorous. In the vicinity of Baton Rouge various ornamentals, fruit trees, cane berries, and willow are in bloom. The season in Louisiana is now about two weeks earlier than normal.

#### TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of February. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: Arrivals: 1 car Ohio extracted of 1500 cases of 24, 1-lb. jars. Nothing available on wholesale spot markets. No sales reported locally.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by rail, origin not specified 57<sup>9</sup> by truck 922 lbs. Ill., 16,090 lbs. Mich., 6,200 lbs. Wis.

COMB: Supplies very light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales to retailers - MICHIGAN, cases White Clover cellophane-wrapped, few \$8.50 per case.

EXTRACTED: Supplies light. Demand moderate, market steady. Sales to brokenrs and other large users - WISCONSIN, cases 2 dozen 8-oz. jars White Clover \$2.89 per case. MICHIGAN, cases 2 dozen, 1-lb. glass jars White Clover \$5.54 per case; cases 1 doz., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. glass jars \$6.35 per case. ILLINOIS, cases 2 doz., 1-lb. glass jars White Clover few \$6.02 per case.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ -43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: Receipts: extracted approximately 9,000 lbs.; beeswax 900. Demand moderate, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and large retailers - COLORADO and IDAHO, Alfalfa and White Sweetclover, White to Water White, glass, cases of 24, 8-oz. \$3.39; case of 24, 1-lb. \$6.00-6.15; 12, 2-lb. \$5.65; case 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. \$6.90.

COMB: No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Dealers paying 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash for domestic crude.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, extracted: 364, 60-lb. cans Minn. White Sweetclovers.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling. Sales to wholesale grocers - U. S. No. 1 Blended honey 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail origin not specified 35,480 lbs. Supplies light. Demand exceeds supply, market firm. Practically no offerings.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and manufacturers - IMPORTED, sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling prices as follows 20,000 lbs. or over unprocessed 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; processed 13¢; less than 20,000 lbs. but not less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; processed 14¢; less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; processed 15¢, plus freight.

BEESWAX: Supplies extremely light. Demand exceeds supply, market strong at ceiling. Sales by receivers port of entry - SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun-bleachable 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Honey arrivals: by rail 46,000 lbs. ... consisting of one-half Iowa and one-half origin not specified. Honey and beeswax, no prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Honey arrivals: by rail and truck, extracted 8,064 lbs. bottled Midwestern. Nothing offered. No sales.

PORTLAND: Arrivals: 24, 60-lb. cans Mixed Flowers from Oregon. Supplies light. Market firm. Sales to retailers and other large buyers in case lots -

EXTRACTED: OREGON, Fireweed and Mixed Flowers 24, 16-oz. glass jars \$6.00-6.23; 24, 8-oz. glass \$3.30; 12, 2-lb. glass \$5.72. IDAHO, Sweetclover-Alfalfa 12, 5-lb. glass jars \$12.52; 24, 16-oz. glass \$6.00.

COMB: No supplies.

BEESWAX: Market unchanged at ceiling.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts light. Trading limited. Market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales by wholesalers and commission merchants to retailers-  
IOWA and COLORADO, Alfalfa and Mixed Flowers, cartons, 16-oz. jars, Light Amber  
\$3.27 per dozen.

SAN FRANCISCO: Receipts: from Northern California via truck - 155 cases Light  
Amber Thistle Mixture; Central Calif. beeswax 3825 lbs.

EXTRACTED: The following quotations are from bottlers to wholesalers,  
and other case lot buyers - 1-lb. glass jars 2 dozen per case \$5.04; 2-lb. glass  
jars 1 dozen per case \$4.76; 2½-lb. glass jars 2 dozen per case \$11.35; 5-lb.  
glass jars or cans 1 dozen per case \$10.18..

- - - - -

#### SHIPMENTS OF PACKAGE BEES - 1943

(By Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Feb. 28, 1944)

Total shipments of package bees in 1943 from Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas and California were about 14 percent larger than the 1942 shipments, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. About 100 of the larger shippers in this area shipped 660,000 pounds of package bees in 1943 and expect to ship 662,000 pounds in 1944. Some difference between intended shipments and actual performance may be expected and will depend mainly on availability of labor and supplies. Most package bee shippers are booked for the season, and it is apparent that prospective buyers who have not ordered their bees early will have difficulty in obtaining them.

Reports of shippers indicate that of the total pounds of bees shipped 40 percent moved in 2 pound packages, 55 percent in 3 pound, 3 percent in 4 pound and 2 percent in 5 pound packages. There were a few bees shipped in units other than those mentioned but they constituted only one-tenth of 1 percent of total pounds shipped.

The principal months of shipment of package bees were, April 44 percent, May 44 percent, June 10 percent and 2 percent during July or later.

The 6 States mentioned furnish the bulk of package bees for northern shipment. The firms reporting are estimated to represent close to half of the shippers of package bees in their States, and their shipments would amount to considerably more than half of the total bees shipped. The purpose of this report is eventually to cover all shippers of package bees in those States and present the information for the use of both shipper and buyer.

The labor situation seems to be the principal limiting factor for most shippers of package bees. The fact that the package bee business is highly seasonal makes it difficult to replace skilled help or hold experienced men the year round. Comments indicate that bees are in good condition.

- - - - -

Released Mar. 7, 1944.

ncb



WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
Office of Distribution

Telephone - REpublic 4142,  
Extension 2176.

Washington 25, D. C.  
March 15, 1944.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII - NO. 6

SUMMARY

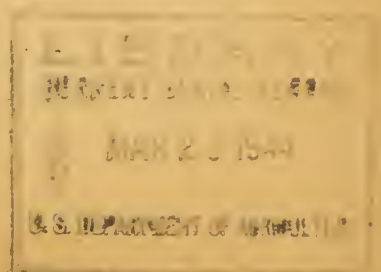
Colder weather prevailed over the entire northern section of the country, with some sections reporting the lowest temperatures of the winter. In the northern States moisture conditions were improved by additional snow and rainfall, although portions of the Plains Area and North Central States still need considerable moisture. In the South moisture conditions have also been favorable, although portions of the Gulf Coast States, with the exception of Florida, have had too much rain for best plant growth and early spring farm operations. Most of Florida is still somewhat deficient in moisture, but rains during this period improved conditions somewhat. In the Gulf Coast States early sources of honey are yielding, broodrearing has been active, and many colonies are approaching the swarming stage. It is expected that the first honey will be extracted in Florida and south Georgia before the end of March. The orange flow is just beginning in Florida, but in California this flow promises to be at least two weeks later than normal because of the heavy rains and cool weather.

Present indications point to better than average wintering of bees in practically all sections of the country. In some of the northern States some colonies are short of stores and will require considerable feeding before the early spring flows. Over most of this area consumption of stores has been unusually heavy because of the mild winter. Plant conditions are generally favorable where precipitation has been ample to provide for a normal spring growth. Portions of the North Central and Plains States had little or no snow cover during much of the winter so that clovers may have suffered somewhat. Regardless of damage the acreage of sweetclover is expected to be considerably lighter than in recent years. Large acreages are being plowed under to provide additional acreage of soybeans and other cash crops. In some areas clover weevil infestation on sweetclover has become increasingly serious. In some sections white clover appears to be more plentiful and may partially make up for the deficiency of sweetclover, although it is not as heavy a yielder.

Plans for expansion among beekeepers are still indefinite. Many amateur beekeepers are beginning operations, but on the other hand many of the larger commercial beekeepers have indicated they will have to restrict operations somewhat because of lack of skilled labor. Package bee and queen producers in all sections have been sold out for some time. A portion of this heavy demand for package bees and queens will be used for strengthening or replacing colonies among commercial beekeepers, but a very large porportion will go to small beekeepers, many of whom are just beginning. Shipment of package bees has already begun from the extreme South to southern areas. The final output of package bees and queens will largely depend on the availability of skilled labor.

While demand for honey has shown a sharp decrease during recent weeks, largely because of increased quantities of lower priced sirups, little honey remains in the hands of beekeepers. On the other hand, many retailers and wholesalers are well stocked with honey and many packers have indicated that with the present demand supplies which they now have on hand will carry them through to the new crop season. About the only sales by beekeepers reported in any section were of small lots, mostly to nearby consumers and retailers. In general ceiling prices prevailed on both honey and beeswax.

- over -



INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period Feb. 22-March 7)

Southern California. Cloudy, rainy weather with temperatures normal or slightly below normal prevailed during most of this period. Bees had very few flights but when they could fly obtained considerable pollen and a little nectar from eucalyptus, mustard, filaree, and various other shrubs and early annuals. Many beekeepers have been feeding and unless an early flow of fair proportion begins soon considerable additional feeding will be necessary. In general colony strength and broodrearing are very satisfactory, with some colonies building up somewhat in advance of the major flows. Because of the cool, wet weather the orange flow is expected to be from one to two weeks late. The growth of sage has been unusually slow for this season. Moisture conditions are ideal and with warmer weather plants should develop both rapidly and plentifully. Honey supplies were still light, with the demand good at the ceiling of \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds, f.o.b. country points. Deliveries consisted mostly of small lots. Moderate supplies of beeswax met with a good demand at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash and 43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. country points.

Northern and Central California. Moderate to heavy rainfall fell over most of this area during the early part of the period, while mild, clear weather prevailed during the latter part. Moisture conditions are quite favorable in nearly all areas, although in some local sections there is still a seasonal moisture deficiency. Colonies are in good condition and broodrearing is quite active. Many colonies are developing considerably ahead of the main flow so that feeding has been necessary. In northern California bees are now working almond, plum, apricot, and numerous early shrubs and ground flowers. Many bees in the northern California area have been rented for pollination use by almond, cherry, and prune growers. Many orders for package bees for delivery in April are being turned down because of the lack of skilled labor. Current offerings of honey by beekeepers are extremely light, but most bottlers feel their present supplies may be sufficient to cover demand until the new crop is available. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - Central California Alfalfa, Bean, Blue Curls, Cotton, and Mixed Flowers, and Northern California Star Thistle and Thistle Mixture 12¢ per lb. Demand for beeswax was good at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period February 22-March 7)

West of Cascades. West of the Cascades the lowest temperatures of the season were registered during the second week in March. Heavy frosts occurred most mornings, but a few mild days permitted bees to make short flights and gather pollen from filberts, pussywillow and wild hazel. Dandelions are just beginning to bloom in the Willamette Valley. In southwestern Oregon temperatures ranged fairly low with snowfall in the foothills. Moisture conditions over all of western Oregon and Washington continued below normal. Bees are in generally good condition, with most hives showing small patches of brood. Some beekeepers have found feeding necessary. In some yards losses as high as five to ten percent were reported, largely as a result of queenlessness, although losses as a whole have been light.

East of the Cascades. Night temperatures were low with heavy frosts and some wind. Rainfall was moderate but snowfall in the mountains was heavier. Bees have been able to make short flights but as yet there has been nothing for them to work on. Maple and willow are about ready to bloom. Winter losses have been extremely light, although dwindling may be expected in some queenless colonies and considerable feeding appears to be necessary in many yards. Broodrearing is just getting under way. Supplies of honey in beekeepers' hands were very light over the entire Pacific Northwest and no sales were reported.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period February 23-March 8)

Moisture conditions were greatly improved in this area during late February and early March except for the plains and eastern mountain area of Colorado and a large portion of Montana. The Western Slope of Colorado and Utah



received extremely heavy snowfalls which should provide ample irrigation water. For the area as a whole bees are wintering fairly well and most colonies have fair quantities of stores. Reports continue to come in from Utah of heavy losses, apparently from poisoning. Demand for honey has fallen off but supplies in beekeepers' hands seem to be fairly well cleaned up. An influx of greater quantities of various cane sirups has reduced the retail demand for honey and many retail stores and wholesalers are well stocked with honey. This can be partly accounted for by increased quantities of honey being held last fall for local consumption. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.- Clover-Alfalfa in case to ten lots mostly 12¢, with an occasional sale as high as 13-14¢; in single 60s to consumers 14-15¢, mostly 15¢; in small pails 13-19¢; in glass jars 22-24¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Colorado. Heavy snows and some rain have greatly improved moisture conditions on the Western Slope. In fact in some areas the snow cover at this time is heavier than a year ago. In the extreme eastern portions of the Rockies and over the plains area of Colorado the snowcover is still considerably below normal, in some sections running only 50 percent of that of a year ago. In the plains area the sub-soil is still dry. Over the State as a whole bees have wintered fairly well, although on the Western Slope some beekeepers are reporting smaller than normal clusters and feeding has been necessary in nearly all areas. Winter losses have been slight.

Wyoming. Only one report was received from Wyoming. This indicated rather deep snow in northwestern Wyoming and temperatures which have kept bees confined since late January.

Montana. The snow cover is still light in western Montana both in the mountains and the valleys. The weather is still open in the plains area of the State although some snow since March 1 has improved moisture conditions. Bees appear to be wintering well, although in the mountains they have not had a good flight since late January.

Idaho. Weather was about normal during this period, with some snow flurries and fairly low temperatures but with occasional days which permitted flights. Bees have apparently wintered well except in districts where some honeydew was stored for winter food. While precipitation has been fair, prospects for irrigation water next summer are not too favorable at this time. Honey supplies are extremely light, with beekeepers holding some supplies for local use.

Utah. Considerable snow fell over northern and eastern Utah during this period. While bees have had one or two flights they have been confined pretty steadily. Most colonies have ample stores to carry them for some time. Losses of colonies have been severe, believed to be largely the result of poisoning. In some sections it now looks like losses may run as high as 50 percent.

Nevada. Heavy storms during this period have improved moisture and plant conditions over much of the State and also increased the available moisture supply for next summer's irrigation.

#### ARIZONA: (Period February 23-March 8)

Most of February and early March were unseasonably cool, with the heaviest rainfall in southern Arizona in a number of years. In the Salt River Valley some losses were reported among colonies which were light in stores. Desert vegetation now looks unusually good, but there is little for bees to work on at this time except wild current and some ground flowers in the Salt River Valley and willow and cottonwood in southeastern Arizona. In the Salt River Valley citrus is late but should be in bloom within the next two weeks. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb., extracted - Mesquite in single 60s few sales 13½¢, in small pails 18¢.

#### SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period February 24-March 9)

Northeast Texas. Conditions during this period were much improved. Bees have wintered well. Fruit trees are blooming, and bees have been able to obtain considerable pollen and nectar. Sweetclover and horsemint are both plentiful and in excellent condition, due to the heavy rains of the winter and the present mild weather.

Southeastern Texas. Colonies with ample stores are now overflowing with bees, with considerable brood in the second story. Many colonies with old queens are preparing to swarm. High winds and cool, cloudy weather have kept bees in the hives much of the time and hindered nectar secretion by the many early spring flowers which are now blooming. Shipment of queens and package bees to customers in the South has already started.

Southwestern Texas. Moisture, plant and colony conditions are all favorable in this area. Mountain laurel and Spanish dagger have practically completed blooming, Mexican persimmon is now in bloom and yielding some nectar, and huajillo, catsclaw, and mesquite are all tagging and should be in bloom around March 20. Colonies are building up rapidly and at the present rate some early swarming may be expected. Demand for honey has fallen off as a result of large supplies of low-priced sirups in the stores. Many beekeepers who held back honey thinking the price might advance are now unloading it, although in general, honey is largely out of the beekeepers' hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - Alfalfa-Mesquite in small pails 19 1/3¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 23-24¢. Beeswax, 41 1/2¢ per lb. cash and 43 1/2¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

New Mexico. In the Mesilla Valley colonies that were strong are building up rapidly and bringing in heavy supplies of pollen on days when high winds do not prevent them from working. Plums and apricots are in bloom, phacelia is starting to bloom on sandy hills locations. The season is about ten days earlier than normal.

Oklahoma. High winds, cool temperatures, and some rain have prevented bees from working during this period. Colonies appear in generally good condition.

Arkansas. Cool, rainy weather prevailed during much of this period. However, bees have obtained some nectar from fruit bloom and stray ground flowers.

PLAINS AREA: Period February 24-March 9)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. A heavy snowfall accompanied by high winds between March 5 and 8 piled huge drifts in many places and will be extremely beneficial in lessening the moisture deficiency. While no reports on condition of bees were obtainable it is thought that some damage may be caused by drifting of snow over the hives and the inability of the cluster in some colonies to reach stores. Little honey remains in producers' hands and the only sales reported were some small pails of Mixed Flower honey at 19¢ per lb. f.o.b.

Iowa. The early part of this period was rather mild, permitting some flight, but during the first week in March temperatures turned colder - falling to zero in some sections of the State and accompanied by snow and high winds. The snow together with some rain during late February and early March has greatly improved moisture conditions. Colony conditions are generally good, although consumption of stores has been heavy and some feeding will be necessary. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Clover, in small pails 18¢.

Nebraska. Colder temperatures with fairly heavy snows in some sections of the State prevailed during this period. Some damage is expected to open-wintered bees, since in many hives broodrearing has started abnormally early. Considerable loss has been reported among cellar-wintered bees, due to extremely heavy consumption of stores brought about by the mild winter. Moisture since January 1 is now running a little better than normal.

Kansas. Cold weather toward the end of this period may cause some damage to colonies which were heavy in brood or short of stores. Moisture conditions are now favorable, with precipitation during the first few days of March being as heavy as normal for the entire month. Plant prospects are now very good, with considerable Dutch clover and some sweetclover, although the acreage of the latter is somewhat reduced.

Missouri. In general bees are wintering well, with many young bees hatching and many colonies with from two to five frames of brood. Maple and elm have partially bloomed but have been frozen back. All fruits give promise of a heavy bloom, but cool weather has delayed the blooming period. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Clover in case to ton lots 12¢, in small pails 22¢.



EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period February 25-March 11)

Michigan. On the northern peninsula bees are still quiet in the cellars, and have not required feeding. Total precipitation for the season is still far below normal over most of Michigan. A snow storm which in some sections reached blizzard proportions produced a blanket of around five to six inches of snow in some portions of the State, but this will not go far toward relieving the moisture deficiency. Honey plants, however, do not appear to have suffered greatly since the ground has been steadily frozen. Bees seem to be wintering well, although consumption of stores has been rather heavy because of the unusually mild winter and considerable feeding will be necessary. It is expected that the acreage of sweet and alsike clover and also alfalfa may be short this year. Demand for honey has been light, but on the other hand little remains in the hands of producers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - White Clover, in small pails 19.4¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 24.2¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Wisconsin. The early part of this period was mild, permitting flights on a number of days, but around March 5 snow with considerable wind and low temperatures covered most of the State. Much of this snow has since melted and considerable ran off since the ground was deeply frozen. There is still some moisture deficiency in most sections. Plants do not seem to have suffered greatly. Some beekeepers report that their colonies are wintering well with fairly ample stores, while others report considerable loss and anticipate some additional loss as a result of the recent cold. Very little honey remains in this section. The only sales reported were of Clover and Mixed Flower honey in single 60s at 12¢ per lb., and in ¾-lb. glass jars at 21.8¢ per lb.

Minnesota. Some rain fell in Minnesota during the early part of this period and was followed by colder temperatures and one or two days of blizzard weather, although the total snowfall was light. It is felt that clovers may have suffered some damage, but it is too early to determine how much. In any event, it is expected that both white and sweetclover plants will be somewhat short this year and some beekeepers have indicated that they plan to move to more favorable locations. Most colonies have wintered well, although consumption of stores has been heavy as the result of the mild early winter. Little honey remains in beekeepers' hands and no sales were reported.

Ohio. The long winter drought in Ohio has been definitely broken by liberal rain and some snow during this period. Temperatures have ranged from high enough for bees to fly to as low as eight or ten degrees above zero. Clover plants now appear in fairly good condition with little heaving although it is expected that the clover acreage will be lighter than in recent years. Most colonies appear in fairly good condition, but some are short of stores and considerable feeding will be necessary. Many colonies are showing fairly large patches of brood while in the southern part of the State some have from two to three frames of brood. Maple and elm have been blooming in the southern part of the State, and on warm days bees have gathered considerable pollen.

Indiana and Illinois. Fairly cold weather with considerable rain and snow prevailed during this period. Plant prospects look fairly promising at this time and most colonies have wintered well, although some are light in stores and considerable feeding will be necessary. It is expected that the cold weather will set back broodrearing which had started during February. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Clover-Buckwheat and Fall Flowers, in single 60s and bulk to consumers 15¢; in small pails 22¢ to retailers. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb. cash and 43½¢ per lb. in trade.

Kentucky. In north-central Kentucky the first few days of this period were unseasonably warm, permitting bees to gather some pollen from maple and elm. This was followed by heavy rains and snows which thoroughly soaked the soil and greatly improved condition of honey plants. Dandelions are making good growth. The unseasonably warm, late February caused fruit buds to swell. Bees have wintered well so far.

NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period February 26-March 13)

New York. In most sections of the State this period was relatively cold, although in nearly all areas except extreme northern New York bees were able to obtain at least one short flight which in many cases was the first in about four months. In the northern and eastern part of the State moisture conditions are now quite favorable, but in the southern and western portions there is still

some moisture deficiency, with little snow on the ground. In general honey plants seem to be coming through very well. While it is still too early in most sections to determine winter losses it is felt for the State as a whole bees have wintered very well. Demand for honey has been somewhat lighter, due partially to an increase in volume of lower priced sirups. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 18-19¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21-22¢; Buckwheat in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 18-19¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb. cash and 43½¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Vermont. The weather continues cold in northern Vermont, and bees have not had a flight since early November. Despite this they seem to be wintering well. Clovers have been protected by a good snow cover since November. Demand for honey continues fairly good but supplies are still short. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted - Clover, in small pails 17¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb. cash, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Connecticut. Honey sales have dropped off but there is no question but what all supplies will be cleaned up before the new crop comes in. Recent rains have improved soil and plant conditions. Bees had a number of flights and are wintering well, with most colonies having ample stores. A few, however, will require feeding.

New Jersey. The early part of this period was cold and the latter part mild and rainy. Some of the early pollen plants are about ready to bloom. Bees have come through the winter in excellent condition with most colonies having adequate stores as the result of the good fall flow last season.

Pennsylvania. Low temperatures with considerable snow prevailed in the mountain areas of northern Pennsylvania. In eastern and southern Pennsylvania the snow cover, on the other hand, has been light. Bees are wintering well although they have not had a flight for some time in northern Pennsylvania. Local demand for honey has been light.

#### SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period February 26-March 13)

Maryland. Rain and snow during this period greatly improved moisture and plant conditions. Temperatures have permitted flights on a number of days and some pollen has been gathered from maple. Apparently most colonies have wintered well but many are light in stores.

Virginia. Most of this period was cool and rainy both in the mountain and Tidewater sections. Bees have had little opportunity to gather pollen and broodrearing has been somewhat retarded.

West Virginia. Weather conditions were generally unfavorable during this period and it is felt that some of the early pollen bearing plants may have been damaged by cold. Colony strength is generally good.

North Carolina. The early part of this period was warm permitting bees to gather large quantities of pollen and some nectar from red maple and fruit bloom. Present prospects are favorable.

South Carolina. This period was marked by heavy rains and considerable cold weather. Late in the period frosty nights damaged some early bloom on miscellaneous shrubs as well as pears and some early peaches. This will cause some shortage in pollen in most hives. Strong hives in the upper section of the State have about five frames of brood. In many hives winter stores have granulated.

#### SOUTHEASTERN SECTIONS: (Period February 25-March 11)

Georgia. In south Georgia ti-ti and other early spring sources are yielding. Colonies are building up rapidly, with practically all hives full of brood and some swarming. Bees are drawing foundation and storing honey very rapidly. Present outlook is exceedingly good. Several good rains thoroughly saturated the ground.

Florida. In south and central Florida bees are working on oranges which have bloomed somewhat earlier than normal. Most of this period has been unseasonably warm and dry, so that the orange flow has not been especially heavy to date. Some rain toward the end of the period broke the long drought over this area and should improve moisture conditions, although considerably more rain is needed. In south Florida palmetto should begin to bloom in a week or ten days. In north Florida ti-ti has been producing heavily, having bloomed two to three weeks early. Colonies are generally in strong condition and



building up rapidly. It is expected some extracting will begin in late March. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Amber Mixed Flowers, in 2-lb. glass jars 18¢.

Alabama. Bees have built up rapidly on ti-ti. Light frosts on March 6-8 caused very little damage to bloom. Package and queen demand continues to exceed the prospective supply. Shippers are beginning to organize their queen yards.

Louisiana. In southern Louisiana this period was very favorable for broodrearing. Bees have flown nearly every day gathering pollen and a little nectar from willow, blackberry and various early spring flowers. Colonies with good queens continue to increase broodrearing. Strongest colonies will soon be at swarming strength. Demand for package bees and queens is heavy but practically all producers are booked to capacity. The labor situation is critical and will govern the volume of shipments. In Northern Louisiana the weather was changeable with considerable rain and some cool weather. Consumption of stores has been heavy. Spring honey plants are far advanced for the season and a little pollen and nectar is coming in during favorable weather. The only feeding to date has been of colonies started from packages late last fall.

#### TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of March. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals reported. Nothing available on wholesale spot markets. No sales reported locally.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by truck 14,490 lbs. Mich., 4500 lbs. Wis.; by rail origin not specified 4 cars.

COMB: No supplies on market.

EXTRACTED: Supplies light. Demand light, market steady. Sales to brokers and other large users - MICHIGAN, cases, 1 dozen, 2½-lb. glass jars Buckwheat \$5.65 per case.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 41½-43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: Receipts: extracted, Colo. approximately 12,000 lbs. Demand slower but exceeds supply, market steady at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and large retailers - COLORADO and IDAHO, Alfalfa and White Sweetclover, White to Water White, glass, cases of 24, 8-oz. \$3.39; 24, 1-lb. \$6.00-6.15; 12, 2-lb. \$5.65; 12, 2½-lb. \$6.90.

COMB: No supplies on market.

BEESWAX: Receipts approximately 2500 lbs. Demand moderate, market steady. Domestic crude wax f.o.b. Denver 41½¢ per lb.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, extracted 34, 60-lb. cans Minn. White Sweetclover; 17, 60-lb. cans Minn. Buckwheat.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling. Sales to wholesale grocers - U. S. No. 1 Blended honey, 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail, origin not specified 1 car. Supplies light. Demand exceeds supply, market firm. Very few sales reported.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and manufacturers - Domestic nothing offered in bulk. Imported, sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling prices as follows: 20,000 lbs. or over unprocessed 11½¢, processed 13¢; less than 20,000 lbs. but not less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 12½¢, processed 14¢; less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 13½¢, processed 15¢, plus freight.

BEESWAX: Origin not specified 2173 tons. Supplies practically negligible. Demand exceeds supply, market strong at ceiling. Sales by receivers port of entry - SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES, Sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun-bleachable 41½¢.

PHILADELPHIA: No arrivals. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, extracted 1560 lbs. Bottled Midwestern. Supplies very light. Nothing offered. No sales.

PORTLAND: No arrivals reported. Supplies light. Market firm. Sales to retailers and other large buyers in case lots -

EXTRACTED: OREGON, Fireweed and Mixed Flowers 24, 16-oz. glass jars \$6.00; 24, 8-oz. glass \$3.30; 12, 2-lb. glass \$5.72. IDAHO, Sweetclover-Alfalfa 12, 5-lb. glass jars \$12.52; 24, 16-oz. glass \$6.00.

COMB: No supplies.

BEESWAX: Market unchanged at ceiling.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts light. Trading limited, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales by wholesalers and commission merchants to retailers-  
COLORADO, Alfalfa, Light Amber cartons 2-lb. jars, \$6.21 per dozen. IOWA, Mixed Flowers, Light Amber and Amber, 1-lb. jars \$3.00 per dozen. ILLINOIS, Mixed Flowers, Light Amber to Amber cartons 24, 1-lb. jars \$6.48.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND & ALAMEDA: Receipts: by truck, from Central California 218 cases Light Amber Alfalfa, Bean, Blue Curls, Cotton; 48 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers; beeswax 4525 lbs.; receipts from Northern California 20 cases Extra Light Amber Star Thistle, 76 cases Light Amber Thistle mixture; by boat Origin not specified 32 cases Light Amber Algaroba.

EXTRACTED: The following quotations are from bottlers to wholesalers and other case lot buyers - 1-lb. glass jars 2 dozen per case \$5.04; 2-lb. glass jars 1 dozen per case \$4.76; 2 1/2-lb. glass jars 2 dozen per case \$11.35; 5-lb. glass jars or cans 1 dozen per case \$10.18. HAWAIIAN ISLANDS, Light Amber Algaroba 11¢; Bay cities dock side.

#### CANADIAN HONEY STORAGE

(By Dominion Dept. of Agriculture, Marketing Service)

Following are honey storage holdings in pounds as on March 1, 1944, together with comparative figures for 1943:-

	<u>CONSUMER</u>		<u>BULK</u>	
	<u>CONTAINERS</u>		<u>CONTAINERS</u>	
	<u>1943</u>	<u>1944</u>	<u>1943</u>	<u>1944</u>
Halifax. . . . .	700	600	-	-
Saint John . . . . .	2,100	3,300	3,000	9,800
Quebec City . . . . .	-	-	-	-
Montreal . . . . .	6,033	33,052	-	5,600
Ottawa . . . . .	144	-	-	-
Toronto . . . . .	100,814	140,672	424,100	699,300
Winnipeg . . . . .	198,773	280,838	15,540	113,812
Regina . . . . .	7,920	-	-	-
Saskatoon. . . . .	-	-	-	-
Edmonton . . . . .	28,320	-	-	-
Lethbridge . . . . .	23,148	-	-	-
Calgary . . . . .	-	25,778	-	104,912
Vancouver. . . . .	66,572	96,926	325,182	(1)48,485

(1) Includes 12,825 lbs. Mexican.

Released March 20, 1944.

neb



WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
Office of Distribution

Telephone - REpublic 4142,  
Extension 2176.

Washington 25, D. C.  
April 1, 1944.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII - NO. 7

LIBRARY  
CURRENT SERIAL RECORD

APR 12 1944

SUMMARY

Considerable rain fell in all sections of the country during this period and in the northern and mountain States some additional snow fell. Moisture conditions for the country as a whole are now greatly improved, although in a few of the North Central States some additional moisture will be required to put plants in best condition. In all sections bees were confined during much of this period by weather conditions. In the Southeast the ti-ti flow in northern Florida, southern Georgia and Southern Alabama has been somewhat reduced, and the orange flow in Florida has been lighter than normal. The citrus flow in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas is over and while of short duration was fairly heavy. The orange flow in southern California and Arizona promises to be at least two weeks later than normal. Colony conditions for the country as a whole are good, with lighter than normal winter losses to date. However, in many sections food stores are becoming light as the result of the mild earlier winter and in some sections as a result of early broodrearing. In the southern package bee and queen producing States volume package shipments are just getting under way. Labor shortages are interfering with the activities of many package producers and with the more stepped-up rate of induction into the armed forces, especially of men under 26, many beekeepers feel that labor supply will present the outstanding problem during the coming season. It is still problematical as to how much, if any, extension in beekeeping can be expected this year. Some commercial beekeepers report they are increasing the number of colonies while others are making deductions in line with the labor supply which they expect they will be able to obtain next summer. There does seem to be an increased interest among amateur beekeepers or those who have never kept bees before.

Although a revision of Maximum Price Regulation 275 is in prospect, certain few problems requiring attention have arisen. Amendment 6 to MPR 275, effective April 4, treats of these problems but represents only an interim measure pending completion of a proposed revision. The principal changes and additions accomplished by this amendment are as follows:

1. The deadline date for filing Forms 1-A, 1-B, and 1-C has been eliminated. Persons who wish to price their packaged honey under the formula in Section 1351.1319 (c) may thus do so, provided that they file Forms 1-A, 1-B, and 1-C (showing calculations) at least two days before offering the item for sale. Formerly persons who did not have these forms on file with the Office of Price Administration by July 15, 1943; were denied the privilege of pricing their honey under the formula set forth in Section 1351.1319 (c), and were restricted to using the dollar-and-cents prices set forth in Section 1351.1319 (h). Limitation of formula pricing to those who availed themselves of it prior to July 15, 1943 produced certain hardships without sufficient compensatory benefit to the price control program.

2. Appropriate provisions have been inserted in the regulation permitting a seller to establish uniform delivered prices by zone or area. This is accomplished by allowing the seller to add to his f.o.b. price for the item "weighted average transportation charges", which he would have incurred on the item during the year preceding the date on which delivered prices are calculated. Where more than one means of transportation is used, weighted averages must be computed separately for each.

3. The regulation has also been amended to provide a pricing method for packers who sell to retailers from branch warehouses. It is recognized that such packers perform a wholesaling function and when selling from their branch warehouses have expenses similar to those of wholesalers. The amendment provides that persons selling packaged honey to retailers from branch warehouses may establish delivered prices for such sales by using the appropriate markups provided in Maximum Price Regulation 421.

Copies of this Amendment 6 to MPR 275 may be obtained directly from the Office of Price Administration, Washington, D. C.



INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period March 7-22)

Southern California. Generally clear weather prevailed in southern California during this period, with temperatures ranging from normal to slightly below normal. In general broodrearing is running somewhat ahead of the orange flow, which is at least two weeks away. Occasional swarms have been reported. Because of heavy broodrearing many colonies have run short of stores and some beekeepers have had to feed to prevent starvation and some are also feeding for early stimulation. In San Diego County white sage is just beginning to bloom and over the section as a whole pollen and a little nectar are being gathered from filaree, mustard, eucalyptus, and various ground flowers. Plants are now growing unusually well. Seasonal precipitation to date is somewhat ahead of normal, but there has been little rain during recent weeks and some additional moisture will be needed to continue the present excellent plant growth. Some colonies are still being moved into the citrus sections. In general prospects now appear very favorable for a good honey flow. Honey continued in light supply, with demand fairly good at the ceiling of \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds. Deliveries consisted mostly of small lots of Sage-Buckwheat and Alfalfa. Demand for beeswax continued good at the ceiling of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. country points.

Imperial Valley. Most colonies are reported in good condition, with from four to six frames of brood. A little nectar is coming in from flax. Pollen is being gathered from mustard and broccoli. An increased acreage of alfalfa in the Imperial Valley this year should substantially increase the amount of honey produced. The weather has been ideal for plant growth. Bees consumed an unusually heavy amount of stores during the winter, and some beekeepers will have to feed to bring the bees through to the main alfalfa flow.

Central and Northern California. Fair weather prevailed during this period over Central and Northern California. However, rather strong north winds have had a tendency to dry out the soil along the coast and in the mountain and valley regions, which may affect the growth of thistle and sage especially. While most plants are now in favorable condition, considerable additional rain will be needed to continue good growth. Colonies are in good condition in nearly all sections. Broodrearing is fairly active, and in some yards considerable feeding has been necessary. In Central California many colonies have already reached swarming strength, and practically all colonies are developing somewhat ahead of the main orange flow, which in Central California will be a little later than normal. Pollen and some nectar is being gathered from miscellaneous deciduous fruit bloom, mustard, eucalyptus, manzanita, and early spring ground flowers. Demand for bees for pollination has been heavy, with considerable movement at the present time from almond orchards to cherries. Offerings of honey by beekeepers are very light and consist mostly of darker grades. In the Bay City area industrial use of honey has dropped off as much as 40 percent due to offerings of lower priced substitutes with which the darker grades of honey are unable to compete. Retail sales of packaged honey are below those of last year, and dealers feel there is now little danger of supplies becoming exhausted before the new crop comes on. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Central California Alfalfa, Cotton, and Mixed Flowers 12¢. Imported Wild Flower honey 11-12¢ per lb. dock side. Beeswax demand was very good with light receipts at 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period March 7-22)

West of Cascades. During this period night temperatures were somewhat below normal, with considerable heavy frost. Vegetation has been retarded and bees have been confined to gathering pollen from pussywillow, filberts, and a few early ground flowers. Normally Oregon maple has produced by this time, but to date has yielded nothing this year. Colonies are in better than normal condition although behind in development as compared with a year ago. Consumption of winter stores was not extremely heavy, with the result that most colonies have ample supplies to carry them through to the early honey flows. Very little honey remains in the hands of beekeepers.



East of Cascades. The weather was generally cold and windy with little opportunity for bee flight or inspection of hives. In the higher altitudes temperatures dropped to zero and there was a heavy snowfall which will provide additional storage moisture for irrigation. Colonies generally average a little stronger than usual for this season, with three or more frames of brood and many young bees. Inquiries indicate that there will be a heavy demand for bees for pollination in the fruit sections. Very little honey remains in beekeepers' hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted Alfalfa-Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in 3-lb. glass jars 20¢.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period March 8-23)

Cold, stormy weather prevailed over most of the Intermountain Region during this period. In Colorado, Utah, and parts of Wyoming moisture conditions have been greatly improved by additional snowfalls. In Montana and Idaho moisture conditions are still below normal. East of the Rockies bees have wintered fairly well to date, although some hives are short of stores and considerable feeding will be necessary. In Idaho bees have not wintered so satisfactorily and in Utah reports continue to come in of heavy losses from poisoning last season. More honey moved to market during recent weeks than for some time. Retail demand, however, has been rather light as the result of large quantities of low-priced sirups. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Alfalfa in carlots and in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 14-15¢, mostly 15¢; in small pails 17-19¢, mostly around 18¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 20¢. Beeswax 41½¢, a few 42½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers. Details by States follow:

Colorado. Stormy weather prevailed during much of this period. Additional snows fell on the western slope and one of the heaviest snowfalls in years fell over the eastern slope of the Rockies so that storage moisture for irrigation should now be ample. Cold temperatures kept bees confined. Most beekeepers feel this is much more desirable than having an early build-up which may result in heavy losses from cold temperatures in April. Winter losses appear to be light and in most cases stores are sufficient to carry through to the spring flows.

Wyoming. In northern Wyoming this period was cold with considerable snow and some rain. In this section some winter losses have been reported and consumption of stores has been unusually heavy.

Montana. March was quite cold and windy with considerable snow, although much moisture will be needed to put honey plants in good condition. In general bees are still in fairly good condition although many hives are low in stores as a result of the warm weather during January and February.

Idaho. In the Snake River Valley bees are being unpacked and bee yards are being checked. Losses are showing up, ranging from three to twenty percent, with occasional yards in poorer locations or with winter stores containing considerable honeydew possibly showing as high as 40-50 percent losses. On the other hand, colonies which had ample stores of good quality honey seem to be in generally strong condition. Moisture conditions are considerably below normal, with a shortage of irrigation water in the mountains. Plant conditions are somewhat below normal. Considerable bee pasture is being plowed under this spring to be planted to sugar beets and other cash crops.

Utah. Additional snows have improved moisture conditions over northern Utah. Cooler temperatures have kept bees confined much of the time. Winter losses from starvation have been rather light, but many yards continue to report extremely heavy losses from poisoning.

Nevada. Temperatures during this period averaged below normal, with high winds and some rain and snow.

ARIZONA: (Period March 8 - 23)

Cool, cloudy, windy weather prevailed during this period. Bees have built up slowly and most colonies have sufficient stores to carry them through to the spring flows. Some desert bloom is now coming on, with many ground flowers and mesquite putting out leaves and an occasional bloom.



SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period March 9 - 24)

Northeast, East and Southeast Texas. Cold, rainy weather during this period prevented bees from working on spring bloom. Stores are being rapidly depleted and considerable feeding has been necessary despite the fact that there has been considerable bloom on willow, yeupon, wild plum, and red bud. High water has made it impossible to reach some apiaries and it is feared some starvation may result if bad weather continues. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb. - extracted, south Texas Huajillo, in case to ton lots 12¢.

Lower Rio Grande Valley. Two fairly good rains during this period have relieved the dry spell for the present. The citrus honey flow is over and while it was of short duration it was fairly heavy and colonies which were in prime condition built up surpluses of around 50 pounds. Mesquite is in full bloom but since the rains weather has been unfavorable for gathering honey. Smaller beekeepers will likely do a little extracting early in April. Demand for bees and queens continues strong.

Southwest Texas. Rainy weather has kept bees confined much of the time and prevented them from storing any appreciable quantity of honey from the many flowers which are in bloom. Soapbush, flax and many ground flowers are now in full bloom. Catsclaw is beginning to bloom. Some colonies are already swarming because of the cool, rainy weather and sporadic honey flow. We have reports that an extensive experiment will be conducted in this section to determine if sulphur in cotton poison dust will act as a repellent to bees and prevent or reduce losses from poisoning. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Alfalfa-Mesquite, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 16.9¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢.

Oklahoma. Weather has been cold and wet. Bees so far examined are wintering well.

Arkansas. The fruit bloom is about over in Arkansas, but cool, rainy weather prevented bees from obtaining much nectar from this source. Colonies which had ample food stores are now in good strong condition. Some hives are about ready to swarm. Moisture and plant conditions are now unusually good.

PLAINS AREA: (Period March 9-24)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Weather during this period was cool and cloudy keeping bees confined much of the time, although they were able to obtain one or two good flights. Some snow and rain have greatly improved moisture conditions. Outdoor-wintered bees have apparently come through in fairly good shape, although some are short of stores. Many cellar-packed bees will be moved out doors within the next two weeks. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Mixed Flowers, in small pails, few sales 19¢ per lb.

Iowa. Some snow and rain fell during this period improving moisture conditions, but considerable moisture will be needed to completely saturate the soil. Bees are apparently wintering well with only normal winter losses, although some colonies are short of stores and will require early feeding. Maple and elm are about ready to bloom, and with a brief period of mild weather fruit bloom will begin to open. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Clover, in small pails 18¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢.

Nebraska. Wintery weather prevailed over Nebraska during much of March. It now looks like spring bloom will be at least ten days to two weeks late. Moisture conditions are generally favorable at this time, although in some sections additional rain or snowfall would be beneficial. Outdoor-wintered bees seem to be in fair shape, but reports come in of heavy losses among cellar-wintered bees as a result of starvation. Sales f.o.b. shipping points, per lb. - Sweetclover-Alfalfa in case to ton lots 12-13¢, in single 60s 15¢.

Kansas. Cool, wet weather kept bees confined during most of this period. Moisture conditions are unusually good and clover plants now are in good condition, although acreage of sweetclover may be somewhat reduced as compared with previous years. Colony condition is better than average for this season, although many hives are short of stores. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Alfalfa and Mixed Flowers, in small pails 18¢.

Missouri. Recent rains and light snowfall have greatly improved moisture conditions over Missouri. In general bees have wintered well, although some bees were lost on one or two days when high winds accompanied warm temperatures so that bees were unable to return to their hives. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Mixed Flowers, in case to ton lots 12-12½¢, in small pails 16-20.2¢. Beeswax 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.



EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period March 11-25)

Michigan. On the northern peninsula March temperatures were consistently low which kept bees quiet in the cellars. Moisture is still short with little snow to protect clovers during the winter. On the southern peninsula considerable rain fell during March but there is still an overall moisture deficiency. Broodrearing has stepped up during recent weeks and consumption of stores has increased. Considerable early feeding may be necessary.

Wisconsin. Bees were confined during this period by cold, windy weather. Additional rain and snowfall have greatly improved moisture conditions. Occasional casual examination of hives indicates better than normal wintering, although some colonies will require fairly heavy feeding. There are still some lots of honey left in producers' hands which may be released soon. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - White Clover, in single 60s 14½-15¢; in small pails 22¢; in small jars 23-24¢, few high as 28¢. Beeswax few sales 40-41½¢, mostly 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Minnesota. Several light snows with some rain in southern Minnesota have improved moisture conditions over the State. Temperatures have been cool enough to delay early plant development and also to keep bees confined. Winter losses so far have been very light, running probably less than five percent, with many yards showing almost no loss.

Ohio. Stormy weather with rain, snow and sleet prevailed during the early part of this period, while the latter portion was mild but rainy. Moisture conditions are now extremely favorable and for the State as a whole plant conditions look unusually good, both from the standpoint of clovers and winter wheat. In the northern part of the State it is expected that most of the pollen from maple will be lost to bees. As a result some are feeding pollen substitutes. Present indications point to light colony losses, although many colonies are running low on stores. Apparently little honey remains in beekeepers' hands in this State, but demand has been light and no sales were reported.

Indiana and Illinois. Most of this period was cool and rainy, although there were occasional warm sunny days when bees could fly. Moisture conditions are now unusually good and plant conditions are quite favorable. Clovers look better now than a month or six weeks ago. Maple and elm will soon be in full bloom. Colony condition is generally good, with large clusters and considerable brood. Consumption of stores has been fairly heavy and considerable feeding will be necessary during the next few weeks. Demand for honey has been rather light. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, White Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢; Buckwheat and Fall Flowers, bulk to consumers 15¢; in small pails to consumers 22¢.

Kentucky. Cold weather with wind, rain, sleet and snow during this period prevented bees from working on maple and elm bloom in north central Kentucky. In this section of the State honey plants are in excellent condition and colonies are also in good condition. In southwestern Kentucky peaches were in bloom around March 23 but were damaged by cold weather. Unfavorable weather kept bees confined during much of this period. Beeswax, 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period March 13-27)

New York. During the early part of this period considerable rain and snow fell over most sections of New York. Moisture conditions are generally considerably improved. Temperatures moderated in most sections so that bees had good flights on March 24 and 25. In many yards this was the first flight since early winter. Most beekeepers report unusually good wintering although an occasional yard reported some loss. Condition of clover plants is only fair and the present period of alternate freezing and thawing may cause some additional damage. Demand for honey was rather light, but a number of sales were reported. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 15¢; in small pails mostly 18¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢; Buckwheat in single 60s 14-15¢; in small pails 16 2/3-20¢; mostly 17-18¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 20.9-21¢; Mixed Flowers in small pails few 19¢.

Vermont. Weather warmed up sufficiently during this period to permit a fairly good flight, the first of the season. Most of the snow cover is now melted. Most bees have survived the winter so far but the critical period is from now until the middle of May. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, White Clover in small pails 17¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.



Connecticut. Heavy recent rains have greatly improved moisture and plant conditions. All normal colonies are in good condition with large clusters. Broodrearing has started, although no new pollen is yet available.

New Jersey. A fairly heavy snow on March 19 and 20 following by heavy rainfall has thoroughly saturated the soil. Bees are obtaining pollen from maple and elm when weather is favorable. The best wintering in many years has been reported. Queens are laying and some young bees are hatching.

Pennsylvania. Considerable additional moisture in the form of both rain and snow fell during March. Plants are generally in healthy condition. Bees had a number of opportunities to fly during this period, and colonies are generally in good condition. Some early feeding will be necessary especially of hives which were extracted too closely last fall.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period March 13-27)

Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia. Considerable snow and rain fell during this period and temperatures ranged from the high twenties to as high as 80 degrees. Soil moisture conditions should now be about normal. Bees have been very active on favorable days, but have not been able to take full advantage of the maple and elm bloom. Early inspections indicate light winter losses, probably averaging not over five percent. Some feeding has been necessary. In Virginia peaches were about ready to bloom at the end of March.

North Carolina. Mild temperatures with considerable rain prevailed during this period. The season is somewhat later than normal, but plants are in a good healthy condition with excellent moisture conditions. Bees wintered well and most colonies are building up rapidly on early bloom. Little feeding has been necessary to date, but a continuation of the present weather will necessitate fairly heavy feeding.

South Carolina. Weather during most of this period was unsettled with considerable rain. At the end of the period peaches were practically through blooming but weather prevented bees from obtaining the full benefit from this source. Redbud was in full bloom at the end of the period. Broodrearing is progressing well. Most hives show sufficient pollen for present needs but only light pollen reserves.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period March 11-25)

Georgia. Excessive rains during this period interfered with bee yard operations and reduced the ti-ti flow in south Georgia. It now looks like the ti-ti crop will run little more than 50 percent of normal. Broodrearing has been extremely active, with some swarming reported. Strong colonies are building queen cells. Active shipment of packages is expected to begin around April 1. In south Georgia black gum was just beginning to bloom around March 25 and tupelo was budding at least two weeks earlier than last year.

Florida. In southern Florida much of this period was rather dry and the rains came too late to help the orange flow much. In northern Florida much of this period was cool and wet. It now looks like the orange flow will be lighter than normal, running possibly not more than two-thirds of a normal crop. In the southern part of the State palmetto will be in bloom shortly, and present prospects appear good from this source. A little extracting of Orange honey has been reported, but no large lot sales. Considerable bee pasture has been burned over during recent weeks. In most sections bees are beginning to swarm.

Alabama. Heavy rains during this period kept bees confined much of the time and will make package bee and queen shipments a little late. Honey plant conditions are now favorable.

Louisiana. In the extreme southern portion of the State cool, cloudy, rainy weather prevented bees from gathering much nectar. A little further north the period was more favorable for bee activity. During March most colonies in the vicinity of Baton Rouge obtained considerable pollen and nearly enough nectar for maintenance. Willow, blackberry and white clover are now blooming. Condition of colonies is excellent with development generally a little ahead of normal. Stocking of queen nuclei is completed with queens being shipped regularly. Due to good conditions some additional package and queen orders have been accepted.



TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of March. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: Arrivals: 1500 cases of 1-lb. jars extracted Ohio. Nothing available on wholesale spot markets. No sales reported locally. Demand somewhat slower.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by rail, 2 cars Calif., 1 car origin not specified; by truck 600 lbs. Iowa.

COMB: No supplies on market.

EXTRACTED: Supplies light. Demand light, market steady. Sales to brokers and other large users - IOWA, cases 2 dozen, 1-lb. glass jars Amber Clover \$6.10 per case.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 41½-43½ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: No receipts extracted or comb reported. Demand continued slow for extracted at approximate ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and large retailers - COLORADO and IDAHO, Alfalfa and White Sweetclover, White to Water White, glass, cases of 24, 8-oz. \$3.39; 24, 1-lb. \$6.00-6.15; 12, 2-lb. \$5.65; 12, 2½-lb. \$6.90.

COMB: No supplies on market.

BEESWAX: Receipts approximately 1200 lbs. Demand moderate, market steady. Domestic crude 41½¢.

MINNEAPOLIS: No arrivals reported. Supplies very light. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales to wholesale grocers- 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; sales to retail grocers- 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail, 2 Calif., origin not specified 48,638 lbs. and 1 car. Supplies light. Demand exceeds supply, market firm, very few sales reported.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and manufacturers - Domestic, nothing offered in bulk, going to bottlers. Imports, sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling prices as follows - 20,000 lbs. or over unprocessed 11½¢; processed 13¢; less than 20,000 lbs. but not less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 12½¢; processed 14¢; less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 13½¢; processed 15¢, plus freight.

BEESWAX: Origin not specified 10,293 lbs. arrived. Supply very light. Demand exceeds supply, market strong at ceiling. Sales by receivers port of entry- SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun-bleachable 41½¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Honey and beeswax - no arrivals or prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck extracted 1500 lbs. bottled midwestern. Supplies very light. No sales reported.

PORTLAND: Arrivals: 910 cases from Calif. via rail, 52, 60-lb. cans from Oregon. Supplies light. Market firm. Sales to retailers and other larger buyers in case lots -

EXTRACTED: OREGON, Fireweed and Mixed Flowers, 24, 16-oz. glass jars \$6.00-6.23; 24, 8-oz. jars \$3.30; 12, 2-lb. glass \$5.72; 12, 5-lb. glass jars \$12.52. CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers, 24, 1-lb. glass jars \$6.27; 12, 2-lb. glass \$5.85; 12, 3-lb. glass \$8.56.

COMB: No supplies.

BEESWAX: Market unchanged at ceiling.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts light. Trading limited, market steady. Sales by commission merchants and wholesalers to retailers-

EXTRACTED: ILLINOIS, Mixed Flowers Amber to Light Amber, cartons 24, 1-lb. jars \$6.48; 60-lb. tins per lb. 14½¢. COLORADO, Alfalfa, Light Amber cartons 12, 2-lb. jars \$6.20. IOWA, Mixed Flowers Amber 12, 1-lb. jars \$3.00.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND & ALAMEDA: Receipts from Central Calif. by truck: 347 cases Light Amber Alfalfa, Cotton, Mixed Flowers; no receipts reported from Northern Calif.; 40,000 lbs. Light Amber Wild Flowers origin not specified.

Figure 1. The effect of the concentration of the *Agrobacterium* suspension on the transformation efficiency of *Agrobacterium* strains.

1. *Pharmaceutical industry* – The pharmaceutical industry is the largest of the three industries, with sales of \$10.5 billion in 1997. It is the only industry that has not experienced a decline in sales since 1990. The industry is dominated by a few large firms, with the top five firms accounting for 40% of sales. The industry is characterized by high R&D expenditures, which are a result of the high costs of developing new drugs.

1. *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin. ex Steud.



APR 25 1944

U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
April 15, 1944

Telephone - REpublic 4142,  
Extension 2176.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII - NO. 8

SUMMARY

Many areas which were favored with a very mild winter and suffered from a winter drought are now suffering from an excessively cool and wet early spring. With the exception of some of the Western group of States and the Northern Plains and the North Central areas much of the country has had excessive rainfall. This has been especially true in the Southeast, with the exception of Florida. Frosts and freezes through much of the middle south caused some injury to peaches and other early deciduous fruit, and reduced the flow from nearly all late March and early April nectar sources. The citrus flows in Florida and the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas have ended and were somewhat lighter than normal. The Florida citrus honey was somewhat darker than normal, but the crop in the Lower Rio Grande Valley was of unusually heavy body and very light in color. Oranges in Southern California and Arizona are just beginning to bloom. The main orange flow in the west will be at least two weeks later than normal, but promises to be fairly heavy except in portions of Central California where some bloom was killed by frosts.

Condition of bees for the country as a whole is better than normal and much better than last year. However, because of the mild winter over much of the north considerable heavy feeding will be required. Shipments of package bees from the South are becoming heavy. Orders for packages and queens continue heavy with most producers turning down many orders daily. Unseasonably cool weather through the Ohio Valley and some of the mid-western States has made introduction of new packages difficult. Labor shortages continue to hamper the operations of many package producers and will likely be a big factor in determining the amount of expansion which will take place among commercial beekeepers this year. Interest in beekeeping is still keen among amateurs and small side-line beekeepers. Some apiaries are changing hands.

Honey supplies in beekeepers' hands are becoming increasingly light. On the other hand, many packers and wholesalers apparently have sufficient honey on hand to carry them through until new crop honey is available. Retail demand for honey continues rather light and many industrial users of honey are now using lower priced substitutes. The f.o.b. price on honey is practically all sections continues at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb. f.o.b., regardless of flavor or color. Offerings of beeswax are somewhat lighter. However, demand continues good at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period March 22-April 7)

Southern California. The weather during the first half of April was somewhat unsettled, with cloudiness and considerable drying wind. Temperatures ranged from normal to slightly below normal. In the valley areas most colonies are in fairly good condition, with some already at swarming strength. On the other hand, in the mountains average colony strength is below normal for this season. The orange flow is just beginning in early groves. The main orange flow is at least two weeks later than normal. Bees are now working button sage, mountain mahogany, eucalyptus, mustard, and various ground flowers. Button sage in most sections is yielding poorly and it is felt that unless some additional moisture is received in the near future white sage will not do too well. Buckwheat now looks good. While the seasonal precipitation to date is considerably above normal there has been little or no rain since mid-March so that considerable additional rainfall will be needed to keep plants in good growing condition. Demand for honey continued good, with light supplies moving



at the ceiling of \$14.40 per case of 120 lbs. f.o.b. country points. Deliveries by beekeepers to the Los Angeles area during early April were mostly small lots of Light Amber to Extra Light Amber Sage-Buckwheat, Alfalfa and Mixed Flowers from southern California and the San Joaquin Valley. Beeswax moved well at the ceiling of 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. country points.

Central and Northern California. Temperatures were mostly below normal in northern and central California during the latter part of this period. Light to moderate rains fell at most lower elevations except in the lower San Joaquin Valley where precipitation was very light. Northerly winds have been drying out the soil, and additional moisture is badly needed. The growth of fall flowering plants is already affected to some extent. Colonies are generally in very good condition with heavy populations. In fact, most colonies have developed somewhat in advance of the main spring flows. In central California most commercial apiaries have been moved to the orange districts in Tulare County. The orange flow will be at least two weeks late. Bees are now obtaining pollen and a little nectar from mustard, fiddleneck, eucalyptus, manzanita, poison oak, some late deciduous fruits, scattered early orange bloom, and various spring ground flowers. Some eucalyptus and prune honey may be extracted during the next week or ten days. Offerings of honey continue very light. Retail demand is light, while industrial use of honey has been very light. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted - Central California Cotton, Blue Curls and Mixed Flowers, and Northern California Thistle 12¢ per lb. Some imported Mixed Flower honey moved at 11-12¢ per lb. dockside Bay Cities area. Beeswax offerings were very light at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period March 22-April 7)

West of Cascades. Nights have been cool with considerable cloudy weather and some rainfall, although the seasonal precipitation is still below normal. Broodrearing has been quite active with most colonies showing from two to five frames of brood. Bees have been able to work on only a few days with result that in some yards considerable feeding has been necessary or will be necessary within the near future. On clear days bees have worked on Oregon maple, Oregon grape, dandelion, Scotch broom, and early deciduous such as peaches, prunes, and cherries. Winter colony losses have been relatively light, but in some yards examined a number of queenless colonies were found. Little honey remains in beekeepers' hands.

East of Cascades. Some rainfall has relieved the recent dry situation. Deciduous fruit trees along the Columbia River are earlier than usual, with cherries, peaches, apricots, and early apples in full bloom. Demand for bees for pollination in the Yakima and Wenatchee Valleys has been greater than the supply. Winter losses have been relatively light, running in most yards not to exceed 10 percent. Only a few sales of Alfalfa Clover in 3-lb. glass jars were reported at 20¢ per lb. f.o.b.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period March 23-April 8)

In most of the States in this area beekeepers have begun spring preparations and early examination of colonies and bees. In general winter losses have been relatively light, although in some areas of Idaho heavy losses were reported as the result of using winter stores which contained considerable honeydew, while in Utah reports continue to come in of heavy losses from poisoning. In nearly all sections consumption of stores was heavy during the winter and considerable early feeding will be necessary. Moisture conditions have been greatly improved in Utah, Colorado and southern Wyoming, while in the rest of the area there is still an overall shortage of soil moisture and also storage water in the mountains. Demand for honey continues light. Supplies in beekeepers' hands are, however, light with most beekeepers sold out, and all present indications point to the present crop cleaning up before 1944 crop honey is available. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted- Clover-Alfalfa, in carlots and case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 14-15¢, in small pails few sales reported around 18¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers. Details by States follow:

Colorado. Moisture conditions have greatly improved over all of Colorado with heavy rains and some snows in the valleys and heavy snows in the mountains. Present prospects for irrigation storage water are normal or better. At the lower elevations buds are swelling. In general colonies are still in unusually good condition although some individual beekeepers have reported fairly heavy

continued -



losses due to starvation and many other yards are still somewhat short of stores so considerable feeding will be necessary.

Wyoming. In southern and central Wyoming moisture conditions are now quite favorable but in the northern part of the State there is still an overall moisture deficiency. Most bees have been taken from the cellars and many outdoor colonies have been unpacked. In general losses have been light but considerable feeding will be necessary. Temperatures during the day are occasionally high enough to permit flight, but the nights are still cold over most of the State.

Montana. Temperatures during early March were below normal but during the period in review it warmed up considerably with the temperature on many days reaching 70 degrees or above, permitting active flights. Light winter losses have been reported but consumption of stores during the early winter were unusually heavy so that considerable spring feeding will be necessary. In most sections of the State the ground is still unusually dry, although in some sections rain during this period improved conditions slightly.

Idaho. Bees are being unpacked and losses are extremely variable. Where winter stores were of good quality the losses are normal or below; where stores contained some honeydew losses in individual yards have been reported as high as 60 percent. However, the honeydew districts were relatively scarce so that total loss will average only slightly above normal.

Utah. A number of days of bright, warm weather during this period gave bees a chance to fly and clean house. A number of beekeepers report unusually heavy losses of colonies apparently more as a result of poisoning than from severe winter weather.

Nevada. Weather conditions have not been too favorable during this period. Temperatures over most of the State were below normal and precipitation was also below normal.

ARIZONA: (Period March 23-April 8)

Bees are already swarming in some desert locations of Southwestern Arizona. There has been an abundance of early wild flowers which has resulted in a rapid build-up. In the orange sections bees are beginning to gain, but in most groves oranges are not yet in full bloom. In southeastern Arizona cold, dry weather has curtailed an early flow. Bees are gathering a little honey and nectar but not enough to build up on. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - few sales Mesquite in single 60s 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢, in small pails 18¢.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period March 24-April 9)

East and Southeast Texas. This period was very wet and unseasonably cold. Bees were unable to work and many colonies ran out of stores, necessitating feeding. A few colonies starved, while others lost a large portion of their brood. General colony condition is much less favorable than two weeks previously. Some packages and queens are now being forwarded and shipments should become fairly heavy around the middle of April. Some sections in southeast Texas had exceedingly high water with local floods which damaged a number of bee yards considerably. Several apiaries were entirely wiped out.

South Texas. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted - Cotton, in case to ton lots 12¢.

Lower Rio Grande Valley. Extracting is progressing in a limited way where beekeepers have the time and help available. The orange honey is of exceptionally heavy body and very light in color. Since the orange flow stopped suddenly about two weeks ago, robbing by bees has been serious. No honey flow is in sight for the near future. It is again dry and rain is badly needed. Demand for package bees continues heavy, with many orders being turned down daily. A few up-State honey buyers have been active in the Valley, but little honey has moved in a wholesale way as producers are inclined to pack for the local trade.

Southwest Texas. Severe frost and some freezing weather hit much of this area during the last of March. In many places mesquite was scorched and huajillo and catsclaw were damaged so that bloom may be less than 50 percent of normal. There is now a light honey flow, but present prospects point to a light, early spring crop. Some colonies which had heavy brood or were building up rapidly have had to be fed. Moisture conditions are generally favorable.



New Mexico. In the Mesilla Valley a light snowfall on March 19 was followed by several days of very cold weather, which destroyed a large portion of the apricot bloom. Weather since that time has been favorable and at the end of the period pears and apples were in full bloom providing bees with a good build up.

Oklahoma. Snow and a hard freeze during the last week of March destroyed many honey plants and slowed down bee activity. Generally colonies are in good condition, but unless early pollen and nectar are soon available considerable feeding will be necessary.

Arkansas. This period was cold and rainy with a number of nights of light frosts. This has caused some swarming from strong colonies. Willow is in full bloom and holly looks favorable for a heavy flow. However, weather has prevented bees from working these sources much.

PLAINS AREA: (Period March 24 - April 9)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Temperatures have been somewhat milder during the latter part of this period, but there is still some snow on the ground, especially where deeply drifted, and roads are in poor condition so that it has been difficult to unpack cellar-wintered bees. Cellar bees are becoming very restless. Sweetclover acreage will be considerably reduced, but many sweetclover growers are requesting that bees be placed near their fields which may make for a high utilization of any available flows. Many beekeepers in this area, both large and small, are planning on using package bees to strengthen colonies or expand operations. Some difficulty has been experienced in placing orders for packages.

Iowa and Nebraska. The weather continues cool with some rain. Spring is at least two weeks late. In some sections elm and maple are just beginning to bloom, while in others no bloom is yet apparent. Colony losses so far have been normal or below, practically all as a result of starvation. There was apparently no winter loss as a result of severe cold. Sweetclover acreage will be much lighter than normal. However, considerable Hubam clover will be planted this spring in some areas. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- Nebraska, Alfalfa-Sweetclover in single 60s 15¢ per lb.

Kansas. Practically this entire period was cold and wet, with a blizzard in northern Kansas on March 28 which was followed by torrential rains around April 8. Moisture conditions are favorable. In the southern part of the State some maple and elm are blooming, but in the northern portion nothing is available. In the southern part of the State considerable fruit bloom was killed or damaged by frost at the end of March. Sweetclover plants are in excellent condition, although the acreage is somewhat short. White clover is fairly plentiful. Broodrearing has been delayed by the cool weather but colonies are in generally good condition with relatively light losses to date.

Missouri. Weather during this period was unfavorable for bees and also early blooming fruit. Some peach bloom was killed or severely injured. Bees have consumed large quantities of honey and considerable brood has been killed by freezing weather. On the other hand, most colonies have wintered well and except for the necessity of feeding, most colonies are in very good condition. Dandelions are blooming over most of the State, but cool rainy weather has prevented bees from gathering much pollen.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period March 25-April 11)

Michigan. On the upper peninsula bees are still packed in the cellars. Some feeding has been necessary, but winter losses have been light. The snow is about gone in this section, but temperatures were unseasonably cool during late March and early April. On the lower peninsula the snow is practically gone and good rains have greatly improved moisture and plant conditions. With a very little warm weather pussywillows, soft maple, dandelion and fruit bloom will become available. Winter losses of bees have been light, but consumption of stores heavy with the result that many beekeepers are now feeding honey or sugar and some are feeding pollen substitutes.

Wisconsin. Weather has been seasonable over much of Wisconsin although vegetation is a little later than normal. Over southern Wisconsin moisture conditions have been greatly improved by additional rainfall, while in the northern part of the State much of this period was rather dry. It looks like some white clover was winter killed, although the extent of this loss can not yet be determined. Very little sweetclover is available. Bees have wintered



fairly well, although in some yards losses may run as high as ten percent, due largely to nosema and queenlessness. Considerable feeding, both of honey or sugar and pollen substitutes, has been necessary. The first natural pollen of the season was gathered around April 10. Very little honey was available for sale. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted: Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in 5 and 10-lb. pails and jars few sales around 18¢.

Minnesota. The latter part of March and early April were cold with some snow and rain. The season is now unusually late. While moisture conditions are now quite favorable it is a little early to determine how well clover plants wintered. In any event the clover acreage in Minnesota will be much short of normal, since much clover land has been turned over to other cash crops. Winter losses are extremely variable, although on the whole light. Some cellar-wintered bees suffered fairly heavy losses from dysentery and in the northern part of the State some outdoor yards suffered fairly heavy losses. Quite heavy feeding has been necessary in some yards. The first pollen from maples was available in southern Minnesota around April 10. - Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted- Clover, in single 60s 15¢; dark Mixed Flowers poor quality in single 60s 9¢. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Ohio and Indiana. Cool temperatures with considerable rain during this period prevented bees from flying much and obtaining any quantities of early pollen or nectar from maple, willow or elm. Late freezes killed considerable pollen on maple and elm. Clover plant conditions were improved and present indications point to a better than average clover crop. Reports of winter losses are extremely variable. In some yards losses have been very low while in others they have been average or heavier than average. This has been largely the result of queenlessness and an unusually heavy consumption of winter stores. Much feeding has been necessary. Package bees are beginning to arrive from the South and many packages will be installed during the latter half of April. Some apiaries have changed hands with one sale of 350 colonies in fair hives reported at \$7.00 per colony.

Illinois. Present indications are that bees have wintered considerably better than normal. Most yards still have ample stores although in some yards feeding has been necessary. Considerable rain fell during this period and the soil is now well saturated. Clover plants look unusually good. Buds are beginning to swell on apples and pears. Dandelions should soon be in bloom. Some colonies are being moved to apple orchards for pollination. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. few small lots Clover-Heartsease in case to ton lots 12¢; bulk to consumers 15¢.

Kentucky. In north central Kentucky cold, rainy, snowy, and windy weather gave bees little opportunity to work on the peach and pear bloom. A record low temperature for this season of 20 degrees on April 5 killed or damaged considerable bloom. Many colonies suffered considerable winter loss and early feeding will be necessary in nearly all yards. Plant conditions are now unusually good. In southwestern Kentucky cold weather injured early fruit bloom. Apples will soon be in bloom. No honey sales were reported, but beeswax moved at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb., cash, and 43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

#### NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period March 26-April 13)

New York. Cool, moist weather with some snow has retarded bee activity, although they had several good flights recently. In the southern part of the State a little pollen is coming in on fair days. The season for the State as a whole is somewhat later than both last year and normal. Reports of winter losses vary. Some lots of cellar-wintered bees suffered five to ten percent loss from dysentery while losses to date from outdoor wintered bees seem to be around five percent or less. In some yards sufficient stores are still available to carry the bees through to spring while in others considerable feeding will be necessary. No large quantities of honey seem to be available in producers' hands, but a number of small lot sales were reported. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted- White Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, a few high as 15¢; in single 60s mostly 15¢; in small pails 18-19¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 21-22¢; Buckwheat in small pails 18¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 22¢.

Vermont. In northern Vermont the weather warmed up sufficiently for bees to obtain a good flight, but at the end of this period it was again cold. No pollen is available in this section. Colony, plant, and moisture conditions are favorable. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted: Clover, in small pails 17¢.



Connecticut. Continued cold winds have kept bees confined most of this period. Occasionally during the middle of the day a little pollen was gathered. Broodnests are small for this date, but otherwise colonies are in good condition, and should develop rapidly as soon as flight conditions improve.

New Jersey. Adverse weather conditions, with snow on April 4, retarded bloom of alder and maple and delayed development of colonies at least two weeks later than normal. Toward the end of the period a number of days of good weather permitted bees to gather abundant supplies of pollen.

Pennsylvania. Bees collected the first pollen of the season from American elm around Easter Sunday. Willow, soft maple, alder, and poplar will soon provide pollen. Broodrearing appears normal, with three to four frames of brood. In general colonies are strong and most have sufficient food to carry them through the winter. However, some feeding may be necessary. Clover and other plants are in good condition, with ample soil moisture.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period March 26-April 13)

Maryland. This period was generally cold and wet with one light snow, and freezing temperatures on a number of nights. Bees have had only a few short flights. Broodrearing has been retarded, due to lack of adequate pollen supplies. Stores have been depleted and many colonies now require feeding. Moisture conditions are very favorable.

Virginia and West Virginia. In the mountain sections spring has been somewhat late in coming, but bees are now working on early fruit bloom such as peach, plum and red bud. Apples will soon be in bloom. In the Tidewater section of Virginia the weather was cool and rainy during this period except for the last few days which were warm enough to permit bee flight and inspection of yards. Winter losses have been light in all sections and in the Tidewater section some colonies have practically reached the swarming strength. The main honey flow in this area will not begin until around the end of April.

South Carolina. Bees were swarming in the southern part of the State at the end of this period. Blackberries were in full bloom and poplar and wild vetch were beginning to bloom around the middle of the month.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period March 25-April 11)

Georgia. In south Georgia the spring flow is becoming heavier with bees now gathering nectar from China tree, blackberry, tulip poplar, swamp gallberry, with black gum and tupelo just beginning to bloom. Constant wet weather in March cut the ti-ti flow. However, it has been necessary to extract in some colonies in order to make room for new honey. The excessively wet weather of late March made swarming quite a problem. With the unusually favorable moisture and plant conditions beekeepers are very optimistic over the prospects for a heavy flow this season.

Florida. The orange flow is about over and was somewhat short in all sections of the State. The flow was especially light on the west coast where one of the driest springs in many years has been experienced. The orange honey this season is darker than usual. Palmetto and gallberry are now producing in south Florida; in north Florida the ti-ti flow is over and some extracting is under way. The ti-ti flow was also short as the result of excessive rains during the nectar-producing season. Tupelo will soon bloom in this section. No sales of new crop honey have been reported as yet.

Alabama. The weather was changeable during this period, with more than a normal amount of cold weather and rain. In southern Alabama bees have made good gains during flying days from poplar, blackberry and some late ti-ti. Gallberry is coming into bloom. Queens and package bees are moving out rapidly. Bees are in excellent condition for taking packages.

Louisiana. Cool, cloudy, wet weather tended to restrict bee flights except for short periods. Some colonies lost weight and others required feeding to maintain production of bees. Swarming is beginning in some yards. Production of package bees and queens has been heavier than normal, but weather and labor shortage have somewhat restricted shipments. In southern Louisiana tupelo, rattan and white clover are in bloom. So far the white clover bloom has been very light. In northern Louisiana fruit bloom and wild berries furnished a good build up, but little surplus.

- continued -



TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of April. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals reported. Demand fair, nothing available on wholesale spot markets, no sales reported locally.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by rail, not specified 1 car, diverted one car; by truck 2,780 lbs. Mich.

COMB: No supplies on market.

EXTRACTED: Supplies light. Demand light, market steady. Sales to brokers and other large users - MICHIGAN, 60-lb. cans, Light Amber 15¢ per lb., cases 1 dozen 3½ lb. jars Amber 85¢ per jar, cases 1 dozen 2½-lb. jars Amber \$6.38 per case.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 41½-43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: Receipts: extracted, approximately 6000 lbs. Colo., 60,000 lbs. Calif. Demand better, market steady at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers - COLORADO and IDAHO, Alfalfa and White Sweetclover and CALIFORNIA, Orange glass, cases 12, 2-lb. \$5.43-5.65; 12, 2½-lb. \$6.90; 24, 8-oz. \$3.16-3.39; 24, 1-lb. \$6.00-6.15. Practically no jobbing sales extracted honey account light supplies.

COMB: No supplies on market.

BEESWAX: Receipts approximately 4200 lbs. Demand moderate, market steady. Domestic, crude f.o.b. Denver 41½¢ per lb.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, extracted 65, 60-lb. cans Minn. White Sweetclover; 200 lbs. beeswax. U. S. No.1 blended honey:

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling prices. Sales to wholesale grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Demand very good. Sales f.o.b. beekeepers-for Domestic crude Light Yellow, cash 41½¢; in trade 43½¢.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail, origin not specified 212, 346 lbs., Pa. 400 lbs.

Supplies light. Demand moderate, market firm. Very few sales reported.

EXTRACTED: Sales to jobbers and manufacturers - Domestic, nothing offered. Imported, sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling prices as follows: 20,000 lbs. or over unprocessed 11½¢, processed 13¢; less than 20,000 lbs. but not less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 12½¢, processed 14¢; less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 13½¢, processed 15¢, plus freight.

BEESWAX: 9 bags origin not specified arrived. Supplies very light. Demand exceeds supply, market strong at ceiling. Sales by receivers port of entry-SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun-bleachable 41½¢.

PHILADELPHIA: HONEY and BEESWAX: No arrivals. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, extracted 13,120 lbs. bottled Mid-western. Supplies light. No sales reported.

PORTLAND: No arrivals reported. Supplies light. Market steady. Demand very active for 5-lb. containers, slower on others. Sales to retailers and other larger buyers in case lots-

EXTRACTED: OREGON, Fireweed and Mixed Flowers, 24, 16-oz. glass jars \$6.00-6.23; 24, 8-oz. jars \$3.30; 12, 2-lb. glass \$5.72; 12, 5-lb. glass jars \$12.52. CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers, 24, 1-lb. glass jars \$6.27; 12, 2-lb. glass \$5.85; 12, 3-lb. glass \$8.56.

BEESWAX: Demand good. Buyers taking all they can find at ceiling but are offering little to the trade.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts light. Trading limited, market steady. Sales by commission merchants and wholesalers to retailers -

EXTRACTED: ILLINOIS, Mixed Flowers, Amber to Light Amber, 3-lb. glass jars 71¢; 1-lb. glass jars 27¢; 60-lb. tins per lb. 14½¢. COLORADO, Alfalfa, Light Amber, cartons, 12, 2-lb. jars \$6.21; 12, 1½-lb. jars \$1.88. IOWA, Mixed Flowers Amber cartons 12, 1-lb. jars \$3.00. SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND & ALAMEDA: Receipts from Cent. Calif. via truck 176 cases Light Amber Cotton, Blue Curls, Wild Flowers, Mixed Flowers; receipts from South Calif. 94 cases Extra Light Amber Sage-Buckwheat; Origin not specified 30,000 lbs. Light Amber Wild Flowers.

Released Apr. 19, 1944.

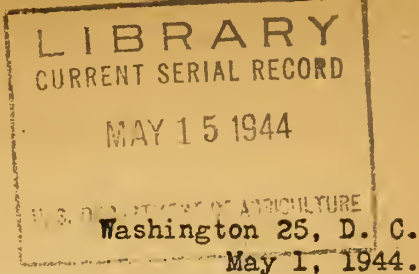
meb





Reserve 1.9  
70 3440

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
Office of Distribution



Telephone - REpublic 4142,  
Extension 2176.

A SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII - NO. 9

SUMMARY

With the exception of California, southeast Texas, and Florida this period was excessively cool and wet, hampering bee yard operations and preventing bees from taking advantage of such early spring flows as might exist. In all sections the spring is running around two weeks late and farmers are considerably behind schedule on their normal farming operations. In some sections winter losses of bees appear to be a little heavier than previously anticipated, due largely to the late spring and heavy consumption of stores. For the country as a whole, however, losses have been normal or less than normal, and in general those colonies which came through the winter are in fairly good condition with considerable brood. Over most of the northern area some feeding will be necessary. Over the southern half of the country early spring flowers and deciduous fruit have provided considerable nectar, but lack of good flying weather has prevented bees from making much of a surplus. In the northern States maple, elm, dandelion, and some early deciduous were beginning to bloom late in April, but inability of bees to fly much of the time has also prevented their taking full advantage of these flows.

Movement of package bees and queens from the south to northern areas has become quite active, although shortage of labor and adverse weather conditions have prevented capacity production in most sections. Beekeepers in the north have had some difficulty in installing package bees because of the cool, wet weather. It is still problematical whether there will be any expansion in beekeeping operations this year, although there is a considerable increased interest among small beekeepers and amateurs.

It is becoming increasingly apparent that there will be sufficient honey to carry through until the new crop is available, although little remains in the hands of beekeepers. Lower-priced sirups and dark imported honey have cut the wholesale and retail demand. In general, prices are holding at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers in case lots to carlots and 15¢ per lb. for sales by beekeepers to consumers in single 60s. Some new crop Orange and Palmetto honey has moved in Florida and Citrus honey from the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas. Most of these crops, however, are being sold locally directly to retailers or consumers.

Beeswax supplies are becoming very light, with demand good at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb., cash, and 43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

-INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS-

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period April 7-22)

Southern California. The orange flow is getting under way, but has been very light as a result of abnormally cool weather which has prevented a normal nectar secretion and also prevented bees from working full time. There has been little rain since early March and the soil is becoming very dry. Unless moisture conditions become much more favorable in the near future, it is anticipated that the white sage and wild buckwheat flows will be below normal. An unusually large number of apiaries have been moved into the orange sections. Bees have generally brooded up heavily and swarming has been serious in some sections, especially where control measures were not practiced. Honey supplies continued light, with demand good at the ceiling of \$14.40 per case f.o.b. country points. Deliveries during this period consisted of small lots of Light Amber to Extra Light Amber Mixed Flowers, Sage-Buckwheat and an occasional lot of Orange honey from southern California and the San Joaquin Valley. Demand continued good for beeswax at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash and 43½¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. country points.

-over-



Northern and Central California. Temperatures were mostly below normal, with deficiencies greatest in the interior valleys. Precipitation was light to moderate in the northern half of the State but elsewhere there was little or none. Cool, windy weather is retarding the growth and development of nectar producing plants in many areas. Sub-normal temperatures have also retarded to some extent the blooms on the citrus trees in the San Joaquin Valley. In northern California colonies are in excellent condition. Some colonies were moved from the prune orchards in Yolo County to plum orchards in Placer County. Beekeepers have had the heaviest rental demand for bees for pollination in many years. The deciduous fruit bloom is practically over except for a few non-commercial apples. Small amounts of Eucalyptus and Prune honey are being extracted in the Santa Clara Valley, but no offerings of new honey to bottlers have been reported. Bottlers are experiencing difficulty in moving darker grades of honey, due to the use of lower priced substitutes by bakers and candy makers. Retail demand is only moderate. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. Central California - Blue Curls, Cotton and Mixed Flowers and Northern California Light Amber to Amber Mixed Flowers 12¢. Some imported Wild Flower honey moved at 11-12¢ per lb., dockside. Offerings of beeswax were very light, but dealers were anxious to purchase at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period April 7-22)

West of Cascades. Rain during much of this period made up some of the moisture deficiency which existed, but prevented bees from taking full advantage of the deciduous fruit bloom which was at its height. The fruit bloom was at least ten days late. Because of their inability to gather large quantities of the nectar available at this time, many colonies are becoming light in stores. Broodrearing has been heavy, and some colonies have been fed. Besides deciduous fruit, wild current, dandelion, soft maple, vine maple, dogwood, Oregon grape, and miscellaneous weeds are now in bloom. The vetch and clover crops look unusually thrifty.

East of the Cascades. Over much of this area some rain fell during this period, with snow in higher altitudes. Nights have been cool. In the fruit sections of eastern Washington large quantities of bees have been placed in the orchards for pollination purposes, but weather has prevented them from being fully effective. Little nectar was gathered from the deciduous bloom, and many colonies have required feeding. With good weather during the first part of May bees will still have an opportunity to gather a little honey for feed from the early spring flow. Very little honey remains in beekeepers' hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Alfalfa-Clover in 3-lb. glass jars 20¢.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period April 8-24)

The weather has been abnormally cold and stormy over practically the entire Intermountain area with the exception of Montana where there is still some shortage of moisture. Heavy snowfalls in the mountains have filled up ample water storage for irrigation and rains in the lower elevations have greatly improved soil moisture conditions. In most sections indications are that winter losses may be heavier than previously anticipated, especially if cool, wet weather continues for any length of time. Many colonies are short of stores, and in many broodrearing has been very backward. Very little honey remains in beekeepers' hands, but demand has fallen off sharply. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Alfalfa-Clover in case to ton lots, few sales 12¢, in 5-lb. pails 14-17¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers. Details by States follow:

Colorado. This period was cool, with considerable rain at the lower elevations and snow in the mountains. The moisture deficiency has been overcome over practically the entire State and most of the mountain areas now have a heavier than normal snow pack. Bees have been confined during practically the entire period and have obtained practically nothing from the early dandelion flow. Considerable feeding has already been done, and many more colonies will require feeding in the near future. Planting of crops has been considerably delayed by the cold, wet weather. In the San Luis Valley prospects do not look too favorable since sweetclover suffered from the drought last summer.

-continued-



Arkansas. This period was rainy which has retarded all farming operations. Beekeepers in some sections have had trouble getting to their out-yards, as a result swarming is becoming something of a problem.

PLAINS AREA: (Period April 10-24)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Bees are being taken from the cellars and outdoor wintered bees have mostly been unpacked. Winter losses have been about normal or around 10-15 percent, with an occasional yard reporting losses as high as 25 percent. A portion of the loss was from starvation, but much was apparently from dysentery or noseema. Live colonies appear in good condition with two to four frames of brood. The first pollen from pussywillow was gathered during this period and temperatures permitted fairly general flights. Although additional rain during this period has improved moisture conditions, some sections are still dry. The season is from one to two weeks late.

Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, and Missouri. Over this entire area April has been abnormally cold and wet, with roads impassable in many sections and heavy floods in portions of Kansas and Missouri. Bees have been confined during practically the entire period so have obtained little or no pollen from elm, maple, and other early sources. In Iowa deciduous fruits and dandelions are developing very slowly. Colonies examined so far indicate losses of about 10 percent, with occasional yards as high as 15 percent, mostly due to starvation and occasional queenlessness. Over the area as a whole soil moisture and plant conditions are generally good, although the season is one to two weeks late. White clover plants are plentiful and in good condition. On the other hand, sweetclover acreage is limited, due to land being turned to other crops. Honey is practically all out of beekeepers' hands but demand has been fairly good. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. Nebraska, Sweetclover-Alfalfa in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period April 11-25)

Michigan. The upper peninsula is having the latest spring in years. Bees are still in the cellars. The weather is cold and the first rains of the spring fell during this period. Heavy feeding will be necessary. On the lower peninsula cold, wet weather prevailed, holding back work in bee yards and keeping bees confined much of the time. In yards examined so far losses have run from two to ten percent. Many colonies, however, are light in stores and it is estimated that at least 50-75 percent will require heavy feeding. In most sections white clover looks very promising. Acreages planted to clover are lighter than normal, due to heavy production of cash crops, but plants are plentiful in pastures. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. White Clover in small pails 18-19¢.

Wisconsin. Cold, wet weather during this period retarded bee activity although there were a number of days when bees could obtain a little pollen from willow, elm, maple, and other early sources in southern Wisconsin. Colonies are generally in good condition, with losses running considerably less than ten percent on an average. In some yards noseema took some toll. The season as a whole is around two weeks late. Demand for honey has fallen off and apparently little remains in the hands of beekeepers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. White Clover in single 60s 15¢.

Minnesota. Early reports indicate heavier losses than previously were anticipated, ranging from five to fifteen percent in many yards, with occasional yards as high as 30-40 percent. Many package bees are now arriving. On the other hand, many beekeepers have been unable to obtain sufficient packages to replace all colonies lost. The spring has been very backward with considerable rain which should improve plant conditions, but which has kept bees confined much of the time. Much feeding will be necessary in most yards. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Basswood-Clover in small pails 18¢.

Ohio. The season is rather backward with considerable cool, rainy weather, although there have been a number of days when bees could fly. The soil is well saturated and clover plants are starting a good thrifty growth. In fact Dutch white and alsike are reported in better condition than for many years in southern Ohio. In southern Ohio deciduous fruit is beginning to open and in central and northern Ohio should bloom in early May. In general colonies have wintered fairly well. In some sections there has been some dwindling.



Wyoming. The spring has been very backward with considerable cold, wet weather. Winter losses have been considerably heavier than previously anticipated and it now looks like at least 50 percent of the colonies will require heavy feeding. No pollen has been available yet. Beekeepers are much concerned over prospects for next summer since many farmers are cutting down on acreage of hay crops and increasing grain.

Montana. Most of this period was cool and dry. In general winter losses appear light, although some beekeepers report heavier losses than were previously anticipated. Broodrearing is getting under way and since little pollen or nectar has been available some feeding has been necessary in many yards. The ground in eastern Montana is very dry and the snowfall in the mountains is much below normal. However, May and June are often wet months in Montana so this situation may change.

Idaho. Cool, windy weather with considerable rain in the valleys and snow in the mountains of central Idaho greatly improved moisture conditions, but kept bees confined during much of this period. In the vicinity of Nampa peaches and apricots were in full bloom around April 25. As a whole bees are in fairly good condition, although some are short in stores and feeding will be necessary. Honey stocks are largely out of producers' hands, but demand has fallen off.

Utah. All of April was unusually wet and cold. The fruit bloom is around two weeks late and at the end of April dandelion had not bloomed. There has been considerable demand for bees for pollination in the cherry and peach sections with bees renting at around \$1.50 per colony.

Nevada. Temperatures were far below normal, with considerable stormy weather during this period. Inspection work in bee yards has been held up.

#### ARIZONA: (Period April 8-24)

In the Salt River Valley the weather has been cool and windy, but bees have built up fairly well on citrus and some swamp cedar. Mesquite bloom is being retarded by cool weather. In the concentrated citrus areas scale colonies have shown gains of around four pounds per day in spite of the cool weather. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Alfalfa-Mesquite in single 60s 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢, in small pails 18¢.

#### SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period April 10-24)

Northeast Texas. In this section the soil is becoming a little dry. However, early spring flowers are blooming well. Locust, rattan and yaupon are yielding more than current needs for bees and in some locations a little surplus is being made. Horsemint and clover plants now look unusually good. Sweet-clover is just beginning to bloom. In some colonies where winter stores were short considerable feeding was necessary and some losses from starvation have been reported. Broodrearing is now progressing well and considerable division of colonies is being made.

East Texas. The weather continues cool and cloudy, but on favorable days bees have shown good gains from rattan, huckleberry and other spring plants. Package bees and queens are moving about on schedule. Adverse weather has been hard on queen breeders and production of queens is not up to normal.

Southeast Texas. Following an extremely wet winter and early spring, dry weather is now giving some concern. Huajillo and catsclaw have produced little nectar, and to date little or no spring crop has been produced. In fact some producers have found it necessary to feed for several weeks. Horsemint is beginning to bloom but unless rains revive the plants the flow will be of short duration.

Southwest Texas. Cool, unfavorable weather accompanied by very dry soil in some sections has been responsible for a very light crop from huajillo and catsclaw. No surplus was made and many beekeepers have found feeding necessary. Bees, however, are building up very well and should be in strong condition for the mesquite flow. Cotton planting was late so the flow from this source will be somewhat delayed.

New Mexico. In the middle Rio Grande Valley bees have wintered well but the season is very late. In the Mesilla Valley the season is now two to three weeks late with high winds almost daily. However, bees have built up fairly well and are in good condition to produce when a nectar flow appears. About the only sources of nectar during the latter part of April were apples and phacelia. Dry weather has injured the phacelia plants somewhat.



Indiana and Illinois. Rainfall has been excessive during this period with many rivers in Illinois and western Indiana at flood stage. Temperatures have been too cool for bee flight much of the time. In southern Illinois and Indiana apples are blooming and further north will be in bloom shortly. Winter losses have been fairly heavy, running from 10 to 25 percent, averaging, however, probably little more than 10 percent. Considerable spring feeding will be necessary. The season over this area is at least two weeks late. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. Illinois, Clover-Heartscase in case to ton lots 12¢, bulk to consumers 13¢.

Kentucky. In north central Kentucky this period was cool, rainy and very windy. Deciduous fruit, dandelion and red bud are in bloom in this section. Much feeding will be necessary. Clovers are in especially good condition. In western Kentucky floods have delayed farm work.

#### NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period April 13-26)

New York. This period was cold and wet over most of the State, which kept bees confined most of the time and prevented them from gathering pollen from elm and maple. Due to the lack of pollen and cool weather broodrearing has expanded very slowly, and many colonies are weak. Most colonies, on the other hand, have fair food stores, although a little feeding may be necessary in some sections. Moisture conditions are now much more favorable than they were a month or six weeks ago and plant prospects appear fairly good. Very little honey remains in beekeepers' hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted- Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 17-18¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢. Beeswax, 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ cash and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Vermont. Days were generally sunny during this period, with an occasional rain. In northern Vermont the ground is well soaked. Bees are gathering pollen from tag alder and elm is just starting to open. Winter loss to date has been very light in better commercial yards. Food stores seem to be ample for the time being where colonies were well stocked last fall. The demand for honey continues good, but the market is practically bare. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. Clover in small pails 17¢.

Connecticut. Bountiful rains during this period greatly improved soil conditions. Bees had three days of good flight during the third week of April and stored considerable pollen and a little nectar. The late spring has made some feeding necessary. Colonies are in generally good condition.

New Jersey. The spring has been backward, with considerable rain and cool weather which has retarded the activity of bees. Winter losses have been very light in well regulated apiaries. Clover plants now look very promising.

Pennsylvania. In central Pennsylvania bees gathered their first pollen on April 20 and 21 from soft maple and elm. However, cool, wet weather prevented bees from obtaining much from these sources. Clover is in excellent condition with considerable white clover showing up in pastures. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Mixed Flowers in single 60s 14¢.

#### SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period April 13-26)

Maryland. This period was exceedingly wet with considerable cool, cloudy weather which kept bees confined much of the time. Early deciduous fruit has finished blooming. Little honey or pollen was obtained from this source. Apples and wild mustard were coming into bloom at the end of the month and with more favorable weather should provide some relief. Winter losses have been light in most yards, but the late spring has necessitated some feeding.

West Virginia. Bees have wintered well and in general have sufficient stores to carry them through and are strong in young bees and brood. Fruit bloom was being worked at the end of the month, and a little surplus was being obtained.

Virginia. In the vicinity of Lynchburg bees were reported in the best condition in April for a number of years with considerable swarming.

North Carolina. Bees have come through the winter in better than average condition and have built up well. Some nectar is now being obtained in the eastern part of the State and the Piedmont area, and the main flow will start in eastern North Carolina very early in May. Rainfall has been excessive since January 1, but prospects now look excellent for honey plants.

South Carolina. Weather was unsettled during much of this period so that bees could fly only part of the time. In the vicinity of Clemson poplar came into bloom on April 17 and black locust a few days later. Vetch and white clover are just beginning to bloom. Despite these flows strong colonies are not yet making a living and many are being fed. It is expected there will be some losses in yards which are not being closely watched at this time.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period April 11-25)

Georgia. Heavy rains fell almost daily over much of Georgia. Some of the main honey plants, such as black gum, tupelo gum, and tulip poplar bloomed during this period, with little or no surplus gained. Highland gallberry has just started to bloom and with favorable weather should provide some surplus. Colonies are strong and swarming has been a problem. Muddy roads have made it difficult to visit outyards and have seriously hampered shipments of package bees and queens. In some sections many queens have been lost, due to high winds during mating time and some packages of bees have had to be forwarded without queens.

Florida. In the extreme northern portion of the State weather has been much like that experienced in Georgia with excessive rains which have cut the spring flow. On the other hand, in the central and southern part of the State weather has been excessively warm and dry, injuring many nectar sources. Much of the orange honey crop has been extracted and some plametto honey is being extracted. It now looks like the orange honey crop will run about two-thirds of normal. A little new honey has moved to market. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. Extracted- Orange and Orange-Palmetto in case to ton lots and barrels 12¢.

Alabama. Heavy rains prevailed over Alabama, seriously retarding colony development and delaying package and queen shipments.

Louisiana. Honey plants are in good condition in Louisiana, but rainy weather has interfered with the gathering of much surplus honey. In the vicinity of Baton Rouge scale colonies have made a surplus of 10-15 pounds for the season. On the other hand, in some sections bees are barely making a living. With warm, clear flying weather the flow should rapidly increase, however. Package bees and queens are being shipped according to schedule, or at around 60 to 65 percent of normal capacity. Lack of skilled labor is causing some hardship and curtailing the movement of packages and queens.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of April. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals reported. Demand fair, nothing available on wholesale spot markets. No sales reported locally.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by truck 20,000 lbs. Colo., 960 lbs. Ill.; no rail receipts reported.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand light, market steady. Sales to brokers and other large users- ILLINOIS, cases, 2 dozen, 1-lb. glass jars mixed Florids \$5.90 per case.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 41<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-43<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.



DENVER: No arrivals reported.

EXTRACTED: Demand fair, market steady, at ceiling. Sales to retailers - COLORADO and IDAHO, Alfalfa and White Sweetclover and CALIFORNIA, Orange, glass cases 12, 2-lb. \$5.43-5.65; 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ - lb. \$6.90; 24, 8-oz. \$3.16-3.39; 24, 1-lb. \$6.00-6.15. Practically no jobbing sales extracted honey account light supplies.

COMB: No supplies on market.

BEESWAX: Receipts approximately 500 lbs. Demand moderate, market steady.

Dealers offering 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. for domestic crude.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, extracted 50, 60-lb. cans Minn. White Sweetclover; 225 lbs. beeswax. Supplies very light. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: U. S. No. 1 blended honey - Sales to wholesale grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75.

BEESWAX: Sales f.o.b. beekeepers for domestic crude Light Yellow, cash 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, in trade 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by freight 179,024 lbs. origin not specified, 825 lbs. Fla., 3500 lbs. Ohio. Supplies light. Demand moderate, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Very few sales to jobbers and manufacturers - Domestic, nothing offered. Imported, sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling prices as follows: 20,000 lbs. or over unprocessed 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, processed 13¢; less than 20,000 lbs. but not less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, processed 14¢; less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, processed 15¢, plus freight.

BEESWAX: 128 tons origin not specified arrived. Supplies light. Demand exceeds supply, market strong at ceiling. Sales by receivers port of entry - SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun bleachable 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Honey and beeswax; No arrivals, no prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, extracted 14,904 lbs. bottled Midwestern. No sales reported.

PORTLAND: No arrivals reported. Supplies light. Market steady. Sales to retailers and other larger buyers in case lots -

EXTRACTED: OREGON, Fireweed and Mixed Flowers, 24, 16-oz. glass jars \$6.00-6.23; 24, 8-oz. jars \$3.30; 12, 2-lb. glass \$5.72; 12, 5-lb. glass jars \$12.52. CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers, 24, 1-lb. glass jars \$6.27; 12, 2-lb. glass \$5.85; 12, 3-lb. glass \$8.56.

BEESWAX: Demand good. Buyers taking all they can find at ceiling but are offering little to the trade.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND & ALAMEDA: Receipts: from Central California by truck - 143 cases Light Amber Blue Curls, Cotton, Mixed Flowers; origin not specified 42,000 lbs. Light Amber Wild Flowers.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts very light. Trading limited, market steady. Sales by commission merchants and wholesalers to retailers -

EXTRACTED: COLORADO, Alfalfa, Light Amber, cartons 12, 2-lb. jars \$6.20; 12, half lb. jars \$1.88. IOWA, Mixed Flowers Amber 12, 1-lb. jars \$3.00.





WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
Office of Distribution

Telephone - REpublic 4142,  
Extension 2176.

Washington 25, D. C.  
May 15, 1944.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII - NO. 10

SUMMARY

The spring has been rather backward in all sections of the country excepting the Northeast from Ohio eastward and the Atlantic Seaboard States. Through the Intermountain area, Southwest, Plains States, and the North Central States west of Ohio, the season is at least two to three weeks late and cool, rainy weather has prevented bees from working normally on such flows as were available. On the other hand, moisture conditions are good and plant prospects are generally favorable. In the clover area there seems to be an overall decrease in the acreage and quantities of sweetclover available, but white clover is more plentiful and in most areas making a luxuriant growth. For the country as a whole winter losses have been considerably lighter than last year, but through the Intermountain and Plains Area spring dwindling has been quite serious and heavy feeding has been necessary. In the Southeast gallberry furnished the principal flow during this period, while in Arizona and California the citrus flow was the important one. In the northern groups of States dandelions were blooming and much of the deciduous fruit bloomed during this period except in the extreme north where this bloom will come during the latter half of May. In California prospects are not too favorable for the sage and buckwheat flows.

Shipment of package bees and queens continues active especially in the Southeast, but in many of the northern States weather has been very unfavorable for the introduction of packages. Some southern beekeepers have had difficulty in producing sufficient queens with the result that shipment of packages has been somewhat retarded. Labor shortages are still a problem with package and queen shippers and also with large commercial apiarists. The changed Selective Service regulations wherein men in essential occupations who are beyond the twenty-nine year age group will be given greater consideration for deferment, may help this situation somewhat.

Old crop honey seems to be quite closely cleaned up among beekeepers. On the other hand, some packers and many wholesalers and retailers apparently have sufficient stocks on hand to carry them until the new crop comes on. In the Southeast some Citrus, Gallberry, and Ti-ti honey has been extracted and in California some early Deciduous and a very little Orange honey has been extracted. In general ceiling prices of 12¢ per lb. in case lots to ton lots or 15¢ per lb. in single 60s directly to consumers prevailed. However, some bulk Amber honey in the Southeast sold at around 11½¢ per lb. Offerings of beeswax was somewhat lighter with prices holding at the ceiling of 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period April 22-May 8)

Southern California. A fairly good rain on April 26 and 27 over large areas of southern California revived vegetation and improved prospects, especially in the desert areas. Up to this time this section was suffering from dry weather, and most plants were making poor growth. Much of the spring has been too cool for best nectar secretion and has prevented bees from taking full advantage of the honey flows. The orange flow which has been under way since mid-April has been disappointing in most districts. Some beekeepers expect only half crop, while others feel their crops may be better than in some recent years. At present prospects are none too favorable for a flow from sage and wild buckwheat. In general colonies are in good condition to

- over -

take advantage of any flows which may materialize. Swarming has been about normal or possibly a little less than normal. Honey supplies continue light, with a good demand at ceiling prices. Sales f.o.b. country points - southern California Sage-Buckwheat and a few lots of new crop Mixed Flower honey \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds. Beeswax continued in good demand at the ceiling of  $41\frac{1}{2}\phi$  per lb. cash, and  $43\frac{1}{2}\phi$  per lb. in trade, f.o.b. country points.

Central California. Temperatures were unseasonably high in the interior valleys and above normal elsewhere in this section. The orange flow in the San Joaquin Valley is practically over and some extracting has been done. Many colonies have already been moved to new locations in the sage and buckwheat areas. The orange flow for the area as a whole was very light, running from 20 to 30 pounds per colony in most districts. Present prospects are that the sage flow will be very spotted and some beekeepers are passing up the sage this year in favor of buckwheat. Bees are in good condition especially in the San Joaquin Valley. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. new crop Eucalyptus and Prune and old crop Blue Curls  $12\phi$ .

Northern California. Bees are in very good condition in northern California, with swarming conditions about normal. Plant conditions are not too favorable, especially in the dry land areas. Prospects look very poor in the Sacramento River Valley for thistle honey, largely because of drying north winds and lack of normal rainfall. Many small thistle plants are already drying up and will probably not bloom. Bees are gathering considerable pollen and a little nectar from mustard, eucalyptus, black locust, orange, walnut, and various garden plants. Buckeye is beginning to produce in the mountains. A little early honey is being extracted. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted Extra Light Amber to Amber Mixed Flowers  $12\phi$ . Beeswax,  $41\frac{1}{2}\phi$  per lb. cash and  $43\frac{1}{2}\phi$  in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period April 22-May 8)

West of Cascades. Weather conditions on the whole have not been conducive to honey production, although toward the end of the period a few days of warm weather permitted bees to gather some food stores. Considerable feeding is still being done, especially in the northern Willamette Valley and loss of colonies from starvation has been rather heavy. During the cherry and maple blooming season the weather was too cool for bee flights. Vetch and crimson clover are now in bloom but have produced little honey to date. There has been some swarming.

East of Cascades. Temperatures were unseasonably low over most of this area with some cloudiness, but little rain. Because of drying winds the soil in some sections is unusually dry for this season. In some sections bees built up fairly well from dandelion and fruit bloom, while in others they have been able to obtain little nectar so far. In some of the orchard districts losses from arsenic poisoning has been quite heavy. Broodrearing has been active and most colonies which came through the winter in good condition and did not suffer from poisoning are in strong condition. No honey sales were reported in any section of Oregon or Washington.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period April 24-May 8)

The spring is running from two to three weeks late in all the Intermountain States. Bee yard operations have been delayed and bees have had very little chance to build up except in those colonies which had abundant stores and some pollen supplement. In Utah, Colorado and southern Wyoming moisture conditions are very good, with a heavy snow pack in the mountains, while in northern Wyoming, Idaho and Montana moisture conditions are much less favorable. Colony losses have been relatively light in most sections excepting Utah where very heavy losses were reported, apparently as a result of poisoning rather than severe wintering conditions. Demand for honey has been very light, but very little is available and no f.o.b. sales were reported. Small quantities of beeswax moved at the ceiling of  $41\frac{1}{2}\phi$  cash, and  $43\frac{1}{2}\phi$  in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers. Details by States follow:

Colorado. Weather continued unfavorable until early May when it became possible for beekeepers to start unpacking and inspection. Bees were able to fly on only a few days. The season is two to three weeks late. In some areas dandelions were blooming early in the month and these together with some early deciduous provided a little build-up. Considerable feeding, however, has been necessary. Apparently winter losses to date have been rather light, especially



where food stores were ample. Moisture prospects for next summer are very good, with a deep snow pack having a high water content in the mountains.

Wyoming. Bees are generally only in fair condition. With the late spring considerable feeding has been necessary and many colonies have not built up well. Dandelion were beginning to bloom in central Wyoming around May 12, and fruit will start blooming very shortly. Moisture conditions are very good and plant conditions are generally favorable.

Montana. The weather continued cold and dry during most of this period. Dandelions were in bloom, but bees were able to work them only a few days and then only a part time. Bees are generally in good condition and building up rapidly where they had plentiful stores. Moisture and plant prospects are now favorable.

Idaho. In the western Snake River Valley bees have been working dandelion and fruit bloom and most colonies have built up to normal. In the eastern Snake River Valley the weather was cold and vegetation is about three weeks later than normal. Dandelions were just beginning to bloom in protected spots on May 6. A little pollen is being obtained from various early trees, willow and spring flowers. Many colonies in this section are becoming light in stores and will require considerable feeding unless favorable weather hastens development of dandelions. In this section expansion of broodnests has been slow, but in the western part of the State most colonies have developed to about normal, and some neglected colonies will soon be swarming. While some rain fell during this period, additional moisture is needed. Plant and moisture conditions are now considered to be somewhat below normal.

Utah. Early May was fairly warm, but dandelions and fruit bloom is at least two weeks late. Some apiaries suffered almost a complete loss of colonies, apparently as a result of poisoning. At present prospects in Utah appear very unfavorable.

Nevada. Weather has continued cold, with plant growth at least three weeks later than normal. Apiary inspection, which should normally be completed in early May, was just getting under way.

ARIZONA: (Period April 24-May 8)

In the Salt River Valley most colonies built up well on the citrus flow, some yards produced a surplus of around 60 pounds and it looks like the average for this district so far has been around 30 pounds per colony, with prospects of a little additional honey. In this section mesquite is very late. Some bees were moved to desert locations before the citrus flow was entirely ended. In southeastern Arizona the season is unusually late. Bees are building up very slowly and some beekeepers have found it necessary to feed in order to keep the bees alive. Mesquite is beginning to bud, but has not produced enough nectar for bees to build up to full strength. At present prospects for a good mesquite crop in southeastern Arizona are unfavorable. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.- Citrus in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 13½¢; in small pails 20¢; Mesquite in single 60s 13½¢, in small pails 18¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb. cash, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period April 25-May 10:

East and Southeast Texas. Conditions have been very unfavorable all spring. Colonies came through the winter in fair to good condition, and most had fair honey stores. Since that time weather has prevented bees from working much of the time and honey flows have been light. Huajillo produced very little nectar in most sections. During a recent drouth queens stopped laying and many colonies are now in poor condition. Much feeding has been necessary to prevent starvation. Some queen breeders have suffered serious loss of virgin queens from the ravages of dragon flies or mosquito hawks. Recent rains have revived horsemint and in some sections bees were making a little more than a living at the end of the period. Sales f.o.b., per lb., extracted, Huajillo in case to ton lots 12¢.

Lower Rio Grande Valley. The central part of the Valley has been very dry and rain is badly needed. On the other hand, some sections of the valley had up to four inches of rain during this period. A light nectar flow continues, making ideal conditions for queen rearing and broodrearing. Bees have held up very well in spite of heavy package production. The bulk of the package shipment from this section will be over by the middle of May or shortly thereafter. Little extracting has been done because of labor shortage and shipping of



package bees. Mesquite is starting a second bloom and bees have obtained a little from this source.

Southwest Texas. For this section as a whole conditions have been very unfavorable, with the huajillo and catsclaw crops almost a failure, due to cold, wet weather. Considerable feeding has been necessary and bees have built up very slowly. One beekeeper from the vicinity of San Angelo reports that while the crop was very late, his bees have made a little surplus and that prospects in that area are favorable.

Oklahoma. The spring in Oklahoma is at least two weeks late and cold weather has kept bees from working much of the time when nectar plants were available. Considerable feeding has been necessary and at present it looks like there will be little nectar available before the end of May.

Arkansas. Heavy rain into the early part of May made it difficult to get to outyards. Many colonies have not even made a living and swarming has been something of a problem.

PLAINS AREA: (Period April 25-May 10)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Frosts and late snow during late April killed much of the early pollen. On May 7 pollen was again available from some late varieties of willow. Many colonies were very short of feed, but have brooded up fairly well. Dandelion will not be available before around May 20-25. Winter losses were extremely variable, running from five to sixty-five percent. Most live colonies, however, were in strong condition. Sweetclover, while short on acreage, is now in good condition and apparently there was little winter killing. No sales of honey were reported. Some small lots of beeswax sold at  $41\frac{1}{2}\phi$  per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Iowa. Weather during this period was very unfavorable with almost continuous rain and cold weather, with some nights below freezing. There has been almost no pollen or nectar available, and in many colonies starvation is threatened unless bees are fed heavily in the near future. Packages are just arriving but installation has been hampered by weather. Clover plants look generally good, with a limited acreage of sweetclover but apparently some increase in the quantity of white Dutch and alsike. Winter losses have been reported all the way from three to twenty percent.

Kansas, Nebraska and Missouri. The spring is running from two to three weeks late with almost continuous cold, rainy weather. Bees have had little opportunity to fly and have been able to gather but little pollen or nectar. There has been much spring dwindling and extremely heavy feeding has been necessary in nearly all yards. It now looks like winter losses and losses from spring dwindling will average ten percent or a little more, with some large beekeepers reporting losses as high as thirty-five percent. While dandelions and some spring flowers have bloomed, weather gave bees little chance to work. White clover plants look unusually good, and in Kansas and southern Missouri occasional bloom has been noted. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted Nebraska Sweetclover, in single 60s  $15\phi$ , in small pails  $18\phi$ . Beeswax,  $41\frac{1}{2}\phi$  per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period April 26-May 11)

Michigan. On the upper peninsula most bees were taken out of the cellars during the last few days of April. Wintering was good with light losses, but heavy feeding has been necessary and there has been nothing available for bees to work on. On the lower peninsula this period was cold and wet, greatly improving moisture and plant conditions, but being unfavorable for bee and bee yard activity. Clover appears to be coming along well, with plentiful supplies of white Dutch clover. Fruit bloom and dandelions are running around two weeks late. Heavy feeding has been necessary in all parts of the southern peninsula. Many colonies have built up very slowly, while others which had plentiful stores have built up well. As a whole winter losses were relatively light and bees are in much better condition than a year ago. Very little honey is available in this section. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Clover, in small pails  $19-19\frac{1}{2}\phi$ .

Wisconsin. From present indications bees have wintered very well with abnormally light losses. Some colonies are building up well while others have developed very slowly. Heavy feeding has been necessary in all yards. Cold, wet weather during the past period kept bees confined much of the time, although they did obtain some pollen from maple and box elder. The season is about two



late. Dandelions are just beginning to bloom in southern Wisconsin and fruit should begin to bloom around May 20. Clover plants look unusually good, with very little winter killing. Little honey is available and no sales were reported.

Minnesota. The spring has been very late, wet and cold. Many bees were removed from the cellar or unpacked until the last few days of April. Losses were heavier than previously anticipated, but are not nearly as heavy on an average as last season. Consumption of stores has been heavy and brood-rearing has been rather active. Large quantities of package bees are being received and indications are that there may be a little expansion in this area. Such sweetclover and alsike clover plants as are available are in very good condition, and white clover plants are both abundant and thrifty.

Ohio. Over the State as a whole bees are in very good condition, and have built up well on early bloom. In southern and Central Ohio dandelion and fruit bloom was about over around May 10, while in northern Ohio this bloom was just beginning. Winter losses in most yards have been very light, running on an average less than five percent. While some beekeepers found a little feeding necessary, large scale feeding has in most cases been avoided this year. Moisture conditions are unusually good and clover, especially white clover, is in excellent condition. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - per lb., White Clover, in small pails 19¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Indiana and Illinois. The season through this area averages about two weeks late, with considerable cool, rainy weather during the early part of this period which prevented bees from working. The latter part of the period was quite favorable. In the southern part of these States dandelion and fruit bloom is largely over; and yields have been variable. In some sections colonies built up well, while in others unfavorable weather prevented them from taking full advantage of these early flows. In the northern portion dandelion and fruit were in bloom around May 10 and most colonies were building up rapidly. Clover plants are in unusually good condition. Sweetclover seems to be rather scarce, but white clover is more abundant than in any year since 1940. Very little honey remains in the hands of beekeepers, but many wholesalers and retailers still have sufficient stocks on hand to carry them from some time. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. White Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢; Clover-Heartsease in single 60s and bulk to consumers 15¢.

Kentucky. Cool, rainy weather prevailed into early May, preventing bees from obtaining much from the dandelion, red bud, and other early flows. Locust and blackberry are beginning to bloom and show promise of a good yield weather permitting. Clovers of all kind are plentiful and showing luxuriant growth. Broodrearing has progressed slowly and considerable feeding has been necessary in most areas. No honey sales were reported. Beeswax continued to move at the ceiling of 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

#### NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period April 27-May 13)

New York. Much of this period was cool and rainy, although there were a number of days when bees could fly and most beekeepers have been able to complete their unpacking and spring feeding operations. Dandelion and fruit are beginning to bloom. In western New York many bees have been placed in the orchards for pollination. Winter losses were generally light and most colonies were building up fairly well. Clover plants are in unusually good condition and in most sections moisture conditions are now favorable. Little honey remains in beekeepers hands, but demand for honey has been slow and most wholesalers and retailers apparently have sufficient honey to carry them through until the new crop is available. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., White clover, in case to ton lots mostly 12¢, few high as 14-15¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 18¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢; Buckwheat in single 60s 15¢, few low as 12¢. Beeswax 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Vermont. Warm, mild weather prevailed for about a week during the mid-part of this period, but at the end of the period it was cooler and rainy. Little honey has been gathered from early sources. Demand for honey has decreased. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Clover in small pails 17¢.

Connecticut. Weather during early May was very favorable and colonies built up rapidly on fruit bloom and dandelion. In some yards swarming was serious. At the close of the period it was becoming rather dry and unless considerable rain falls during the latter part of May prospects for a clover crop are not too good.

New Jersey. Mild spring weather prevailed during much of this period. Bees have developed rapidly on early fruit, dandelion and mustard. Some strong colonies have already stored a little surplus beyond their immediate needs. There has been sufficient rainfall to maintain clover and other plants in very good condition.

Pennsylvania. Bees have wintered well in Pennsylvania, with winter losses probably running five percent or less. Those wintered in double brood chambers had an abundance of honey left over and have built up accordingly. In northern Pennsylvania sugar maple bloomed during early May and produced an abundance of pollen and some honey. Rains toward the end of the period stopped this flow. Apples were beginning to bloom in northern Pennsylvania around May 10. Clover plants are in better condition than for a number of years.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period April 27-May 13)

Maryland and West Virginia. Weather during this period was warm and clear so that bees were able to take full advantage of the apple bloom and are still obtaining some nectar from wild mustard. The main honey flow will get under way around mid-May. Locust bloom is unusually heavy. Clovers are plentiful and showing a good growth. Some white clover blooms were showing around the middle of May. Present prospects point to a good flow.

Virginia. In the Tidewater area very good weather prevailed during this period, with warm clear days and cool nights. Poplar and holly are now blooming and prospects are for a fairly good crop. The main honey flow began in early April and all colonies of working strength have gained rapidly.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period April 26-May 11)

Georgia. In south Georgia the weather is clear but has been unusually cool during much of this period, preventing bees from working except during the middle of the day. Gallberry and persimmon were blooming during this period and bees have built up some surplus although not as much as was previously expected. Production of pollen has been unusually heavy with the result that broodrearing has been at a high level and swarming has presented considerable of a problem. Production of queens, on the other hand, has been rather light and has been a factor in holding back shipments of package bees. A little new honey is being extracted. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.- Amber, Ti-ti and Gallberry in case to ton lots and in barrels mostly 11½¢, some 12¢.

Florida. Much of south Florida continues dry, although local areas have had rain. In that section palmetto and gallberry produced fairly well. The orange crop for the State as a whole was somewhat below normal. Moisture conditions in north Florida have been much more favorable than in the southern part of the State. In north Florida palmetto is just beginning to bloom and gallberry has been producing quite heavily when weather permitted. The tupelo crop in this section was short. Some early honey has been extracted. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Orange in barrels 12¢, in small pails to consumers and retailers mostly 20¢; Ti-ti in barrels 12¢.

Alabama. Excessive rain and cool weather during much of this period has hindered colony activity. Gallberry was in full bloom on May 10 in southern Alabama and is producing well. Package bees are still moving out at a rapid rate with some package and queen producers past the peak of their shipping season.

Louisiana. In southern Louisiana conditions continued unfavorable for bee activity, with excessive cloudy, cool, windy weather, with some rains. At Baton Rouge scale colonies have gained around 30 pounds, whereas in many normal years about half of the surplus crop has been gathered by mid May. Some reports indicate that this has been about the poorest season to date in about 15 years. Many weak colonies are gathering barely enough nectar for maintenance and heavy feeding has been necessary in many queen yards due to shortage of stores. Package and queen orders are generally being shipped according to schedule but no new orders are being accepted. Clover plants are unusually thrifty and will produce considerable surplus provided weather were more favorable.



TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of May. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals reported. Demand fair, nothing available on wholesale spot markets. No sales reported locally.

CHICAGO: Receipts by truck 528 lbs. Ill., 1440 lbs. Mich.; no rail receipts reported.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand light, market steady. Sales to brokers and other large users - ILLINOIS, cases two dozen 1-lb. glass jars White Clover few sales \$7.20.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 41½-43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: Receipts extracted - Idaho approximately 60,000 lbs.; beeswax 1500 lbs.

EXTRACTED: Demand moderate, market steady. Sales to retailers - COLORADO and IDAHO, Alfalfa White Sweetclover, and CALIFORNIA Orange, glass, cases, 12, 2-lb. \$5.43-5.65; 12, 2½-lb. \$6.90; 24, 8-oz. \$3.16-3.39; 24, 1-lb. \$6.00-6.15.

BEESWAX: Demand moderate, market steady at ceiling. Domestic, crude f.o.b. Denver 41½¢ per lb.

MINNEAPOLIS: No arrivals by truck reported.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand good, market firm at ceiling. Sales to wholesale grocers - U. S. No. 1 blended honey 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04. Sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$6.23.

NEW YORK: No arrivals reported. Supplies light. Demand moderate, market steady. Very limited offerings of imported honey at port of entry.

EXTRACTED: Very few sales to jobbers and manufacturers - Domestic, nothing offered. Imported, sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling prices as follows: 20,000 lbs. or over unprocessed 11½¢, processed 13¢; less than 20,000 lbs. but not less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 12½¢, processed 14¢; less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 13½¢, processed 15¢, plus freight.

BEESWAX: No arrivals reported. Supplies very light. Demand exceeds supply, market strong at ceiling. Sales by receivers port of entry - SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun bleachable 41½¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Honey and beeswax: No arrivals, no prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals by rail and truck extracted 5136 lbs. bottled Midwestern. No sales reported.

PORTLAND: Arrivals approximately 400 cases extracted from Calif. Receipts direct to retail stores light. Supplies light. Demand good for 5-pound packages but slow on others. Sales to retailers and other large buyers-

EXTRACTED: CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers Light Amber case lots 12, 5-lb. jars \$12.52; 24, 16-oz. glass \$5.20; 12, 3-lb. \$8.45, 12, 2-lb. \$5.85.

BEESWAX: Supplies moderate. Market unchanged, with dealers paying ceiling prices.

ST LOUIS: Receipts very light. Trading limited, market firm. Sales by commission merchants and wholesalers to retailers-

EXTRACTED: COLORADO, Alfalfa Light Amber, cartons 12, 2-lb. jars \$6.20; 12, half-pound jars \$1.88. IOWA, Mixed Flowers Amber, cartons 12, 1-lb. jars \$3.00. ILLINOIS, Mixed Flowers Light Amber 1-lb. jars 27¢, 3-lb. jars 71¢.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND and ALAMEDA: Receipts from Central California via truck: 39 cases White Blue Curls, 43 case Light Amber Eucalyptus, 58 cases Amber Prune; beeswax - no offerings. No sales reported





1.7  
7/11/34  
WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
Office of Distribution

Telephone - REpublic 4142,  
Extension 2176.

Washington 25, D. C.  
June 1, 1944.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII - NO. 11

A  
SUMMARY

Honey-producing conditions showed considerable improvement in most sections of the country, especially in the North Central States and portions of the Plains Area where an unusually late wet spring retarded activity of bees until mid May. Moisture conditions are unusually favorable in practically all areas except southern California and portions of the Southeast. In most sections bees have built up fairly well on the dandelion and fruit flows and are in generally favorable condition to take advantage of the clover flows which in most of the northern States will start in June. Clover has been producing for the last week or two as far north as Missouri, Kentucky and Maryland. For the country as a whole winter losses have been reported as normal or below normal. In some States, however, losses have been fairly heavy and there has been some spring dwindling.

Little old crop honey remains in producers' hands, but on the other hand demand has been rather light. New crop honey is being extracted in Florida, south Georgia, Texas, Arizona and southern California. Practically all sales of honey continue at ceiling levels regardless of variety, grade or color. Beeswax prices also continued at the ceiling, but offerings were very light.

Amendment 7 to Maximum Price Regulation 275 was issued by the Office of Price Administration on May 26, effective May 31. This Amendment established a purchase price on imported bulk honey, net landed weight basis c.i.f. point or port of arrival which any person may pay at 11.2¢ per lb. for honey admitted free of U. S. duties; 10¢ per lb. for honey shipped from Cuba and 9.7¢ per lb. for all other imported bulk honey. These prices include any foreign export duties, marine and war risk insurance, freight, and all other charges customarily born by the seller in a c.i.f. sale, but do not include applicable U. S. duties. If the person importing bulk honey purchases it on a basis other than c.i.f. point or port of arrival, the maximum price which he may pay shall be the appropriate price set out above less the charges and expenses incurred in bringing it to the U. S. point or port of arrival.

The dealers' maximum selling price for imported bulk honey U. S. duty paid f.o.b. freight car or truck at point or port of arrival when warehoused by the dealer in the United States shall be as follows: In quantities of 12,000 pounds or over 11½¢, less than 12,000 pounds but not less than 1500 pounds 12½¢ less than 1500 pounds but not less than 300 pounds 13½¢, less than 300 pounds 14½¢. When not warehoused by the dealer in the U.S.A. the maximum selling price shall be 11½¢ per lb. regardless of quantity of sale.

Dealers' maximum selling prices for domestic bulk honey f.o.b. dealers' shipping point were established as follows: In sales of 12,000 pounds or over 12½¢ per lb., less than 12,000 but not less than 1500 pounds 13½¢, less than 1500 pounds but not less than 300 pounds 14½¢, and less than 300 pounds 15¢. To these prices may be added 1/2¢ per pound in instances where the seller sells the honey in the container without such container being returned or another one being received in exchange; also the actual freight charges paid by the dealer to a carrier or prior vendor and incurred on the honey from the producers' local shipping point to the point which the dealer sells f.o.b., provided the dealer states these charges on the invoice accompanying the sale and lists the producers local shipping point from which such honey was originally obtained.

The principal effective change in the regulation, when compared with previous amendments, is to remove the allowance for "processed honey" when the straining or filtering is done outside the United States. A "service charge" of 1½ cents per pound is now permitted for imported honey which is heated and strained or heated and filtered in this country, and repacked, except when sold to packers; a similar service charge of 1 cent per pound for domestic honey that is heated, strained or filtered, and repacked.



June 1, 1944

SEMI MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII - NO. 11

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

CALIFORNIA POLINIS: (Period May 8 - 22)

Southern California. This period continued dry, with temperatures generally below normal and cool nights. The orange flow ended during this period and in most sections was below normal. Orange County had better yields than most other sections, with the average for this county running probably 50-60 pounds. In other counties the orange crop ranged from 15 to 60 pounds per colony, with most yards running between 25 and 35 pounds. Black sage is just beginning to yield; in most sections prospects are very poor, due to lack of moisture and cool weather. Wild buckwheat will be late especially at the higher elevations and this crop also is in poor condition at this time. There has been considerable movement of bees from the orange to sage and buckwheat areas, and also some movement of colonies to out-of-State locations. Limited quantities of new crop Orange honey are being delivered; but extracting is progressing slowly, largely because of labor. Sales f.o.b. shipping point \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds for all types of honey. Beeswax continued in good demand at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ per lb., in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Central California. Fairly good rains during the early part of this period improved many nectar-producing plants. The orange crop ranged from 10 to 30 pounds per colony, with the average being probably around 15 pounds, which is the lightest crop in many years. A combination of cool weather and abnormally late rains accounted for this shortage. Many colonies are being moved to the clover, bean and sage-buckwheat areas. At the present time prospects for sage are extremely disappointing, with many of the plants drying up. Buckwheat conditions are more variable. In some sections indications point to a fair crop. Swarming was serious during the latter part of the orange flow, but the swarming peak now appears to be over. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted Orange and Light Amber Mixed Fruit Bloom 12¢.

Northern California. Cool weather with unseasonable rains continued over much of this area. The orange flow in the southern Sacramento Valley is about over and while bees are now obtaining a little nectar from miscellaneous plants there is no major nectar flow available. Star thistle has shown a little better growth in the dry land areas, but the future of the thistle crop for this year is still very doubtful. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted Mixed Fruit Bloom 12¢.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period May 8 - 22)

West of Cascades. Cool, wet weather throughout the Willamette Valley has kept bees confined much of the time and resulted in heavy consumption of stores. Cascara, wild blackberry, dandelion, Scotch broom, lupine, alfalfa, and crimson clover were producing in both the Rogue River and Willamette Valleys when weather permitted. Vetch began blooming around May 20 and with favorable weather conditions should produce a fairly good crop.

East of Cascades. Locust was in full bloom at the end of this period in eastern Oregon and Washington. Nights were very cool and little nectar was obtained. Those colonies which did not suffer from earlier spray poisoning are generally in good condition. However, many are getting light in stores and will need some feeding unless good nectar flows develop in the near future. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted, Alfalfa in single 60s 15-16 2/3¢, mostly 15¢.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period May 8 - 24)

Weather conditions were greatly improved in Colorado, and bees were able to take advantage of the fruit and dandelion flows during this period. In most of the other Intermountain States backward spring weather still prevails and the season is from two weeks to a month late. In Montana rains and snow around the middle of May broke the long winter drought and greatly improved moisture conditions. Except in Colorado bees have built up slowly and in many areas some feeding may still be necessary to carry bees through to the main alfalfa and clover flows. Very little honey remained in beekeepers hands and the only sales reported consisted of some Colorado Alfalfa-Clover honey in small pails at 16-17¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers. Details by States follow

- continued -



Colorado. Weather conditions during this period were favorable for bees and most colonies built up well on dandelion and fruit flows. Winter losses range from five to ten percent but there has been some spring dwindling due to lack of stores and the late spring. Some colonies also came through the winter in rather weakened condition. Moisture prospects are very favorable with a good snow pack in the mountains. Alfalfa looks good, but in some areas there is a shortage of clover.

Wyoming. The early part of this period was cold and wet, but the last few days were favorable for bees. Dandelion and fruit were in full bloom throughout central and southern Wyoming. While most bees came through the winter in better than average condition, there has been some fairly heavy losses and some colonies are rather weak. The season as a whole is at least two weeks late.

Montana. The long winter drought was broken around the middle of May by heavy rains and some snowfall. Moisture conditions are now very favorable. Dandelion was in full bloom during this period, but in most sections bees were unable to take advantage of this flow. Some colonies are in fairly good condition while others came through the winter in rather poor condition. Many are light in stores. Actual winter losses of bees were lighter than normal.

Idaho. The weather has been alternately warm and cold and generally unfavorable for bees throughout southern Idaho. Dandelion and fruit were in bloom during this period, but bees were able to take advantage of this flow during only a portion of the time. For the area as a whole prospects do not now appear too favorable. In some sections it is believed there are too many bees for the nectar sources which will be available this summer.

Utah. Over most of Utah the season is from two weeks to a month late. In northern Utah dandelion and fruit bloomed during this period, but in some sections bees were able to take advantage of these flows only on occasional days. As previously reported losses from poisoning have been heavy but apparently winter losses in those sections not affected by poison have been light.

Nevada. The spring is still very backward with most plant growth at least two weeks late. Bees have obtained some nectar during this period from fruit and dandelion. Many colonies are light in stores and some feeding may be necessary before sweetclover and alfalfa bloom.

ARIZONA: (Period May 8-24)

In southeastern Arizona bees are barely making a living. Scale colonies have shown no gain whatsoever to date. The early flow from weeds and desert plants was almost a complete failure. Mesquite has not yet come into bloom in this section and is from two to three weeks late. In the Salt River Valley and other irrigated sections of southwestern Arizona desert plants look promising at this time, but have produced little because of cool, windy weather. Alfalfa is beginning to bloom. The citrus flow is over and was lighter than last season. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted Mixed Flowers in small pails 15¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 20¢; Mesquite in single 60s 13½¢, in small pails 18¢.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period May 10 - 25)

Northeast Texas. Heavy rains fell over most of northeast Texas during this period. Some replanting of farm crops has been necessary but honey plants are generally in good condition. Present prospects point to a good flow from sweetclover and horsemint. All these plants are plentiful and have made a very heavy growth.

East Texas. Weather during this period was very unfavorable with heavy rains which caused some loss of colonies from high water. Honey plants are in fair condition and should provide good flows as soon as the weather settles. Most package orders have moved but shipment of queens continues heavy. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, Mixed Flowers in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢.

Southeast Texas. In the vicinity of Beeville bees are now gathering the first honey of the season of any consequence, principally from horsemint. Various native brushes are also furnishing some nectar. At the beginning of this flow many colonies were practically broodless following the long dearth of nectar.



Southwest Texas. Conditions are very spotted in this area. In some districts horsemint has been producing well since the middle of May. Mesquite is also producing in some sections. On the other hand, little flow has developed in other areas and some colonies are being fed. Generally speaking, colonies are in fairly good condition for any flows which may develop. The catsclaw and huajillo flows are over, but this crop was very light. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Huajillo in case to ton lots 12¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 22¢.

New Mexico. May was one of the poorest honey months experienced in a good many years in the Mesilla Valley. The first crop of alfalfa was cut before it had bloomed much. Mesquite was in full bloom at the end of the period but produced little nectar. Most colonies are barely making a day to day living.

Oklahoma. Colonies are building up slowly due to lack of nectar sources and many colonies are still being fed. Yellow sweetclover was just beginning to bloom at the end of this period.

Arkansas. During the last week of this period conditions were favorable and bees were obtaining considerable nectar from vetch.

#### PLAINS AREA: (Period May 10-25)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Over most of the Red River Valley soil moisture conditions are unusually good at this time, although a few localities are a little dry. Clover is in fairly good condition. In some fields weevil infestation is quite heavy. Colonies, including packages installed earlier, are building up rapidly on the dandelion flow which was at its height during this period. Winter losses were extremely variable but averaged somewhat heavier than previously anticipated. Losses ranged all the way from four percent to 60 percent. Many of the heavier losses reported were among large commercial beekeepers who had insufficient labor last fall to properly pack their bees for winter.

Iowa. In most sections bees built up very well during this period on dandelion and fruit bloom and in some areas stored as much as 15-20 pounds surplus. In other sections of the State excessive rains kept bees from working much of the time. Some colonies are still weak, but as a whole they are in fairly strong condition. Alsike and white Dutch clover are both fairly plentiful and making a good growth. It will be two or three weeks before these clovers begin yielding. Due to the late wet spring it seems probable that less sweetclover will be ploughed under than previously had been planned.

Kansas. Weather during most of this period was favorable but bees have in most cases been able only to make a living, due to lack of nectar sources. In some sections locust bloomed during this period but yielded little. White clover and yellow sweetclover were beginning to bloom at the close of the period, and this flow should be well under way during the early part of June. Clover plants are in good condition with ample soil moisture.

Nebraska. Over most of the State unfavorable wet weather continued during much of this period, although in a few localities bees could take advantage of limited early flows. Most beekeepers have had to feed heavily during the spring and losses from dwindling have been extremely heavy. With the season from two to three weeks late many colonies have built up so slowly that they will not be in a position to take full advantage of the early clover flows. Acreage of sweetclover is very light, while there is some increase in white Dutch. Moisture and plant conditions are unusually favorable. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Sweetclover-Alfalfa in single 60s 15¢.

Missouri. In central Missouri this period was favorable and bees have largely recovered from their previous backward condition. White Dutch clover bloomed profusely and bees are storing a little surplus and would store more except that threatening weather prevents them from working full time.

#### EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period May 11 - 27)

Michigan. Feeding was necessary in many yards until around the middle of May. Since that time most colonies have made a living or a little better on dandelion and fruit bloom, and most colonies are in fairly good condition to take advantage of the clover flow which should begin around the middle of June. In most sections the peach and cherry bloom was unusually heavy, but in some sections apples bloomed lighter than normal. Considerable rain fell during this period, preventing bees from working full time, but placed soil and plants in unusually good condition. Both white and alsike clovers are plentiful and making



a luxuriant growth. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. Clover in case to ton lots 12¢. Beeswax, 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb., cash, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Wisconsin. Colonies built up well on the dandelion and fruit bloom during this period, although rainy weather at times prevented them from taking full advantage of the available flow. Colonies which came through the winter in good condition are now strong and should be able to gather a large surplus from the clover flow which will begin around June 10-15. Soil and plants are both in unusually good condition to produce a heavy flow. Winter losses were normal or slightly below in most sections. Some beekeepers have experienced difficulty in obtaining queens for replacement purposes. In some yards nosema took a fairly heavy toll and in others a little foulbrood is showing up. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., White Clover in single 60s 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ -15¢, in small pails 19-21¢, in small jars 21-22¢. Beeswax, 41-41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Minnesota. Excessive rains occurred during this period especially in southern Minnesota with the result that practically all farm operations were greatly delayed and bees were able to take advantage of only a part of the dandelion and fruit flows which occurred during this period. Winter losses, while not as heavy as last year, were heavier than earlier anticipated and ranged from 15-50 percent, possibly averaging between 15-25 percent. Plant conditions are unusually good, but the acreage of sweetclover is very short. In Minnesota past experience has shown that white clover is not especially dependable as a source for a large honey flow unless conditions are just right during the blooming period.

Ohio. Bees have build up very well in Ohio on dandelion and fruit bloom which ended early in this period and later on the locust and tulip-poplar. Many beekeepers report colonies in best condition for this season in a good many years. Clover looks unusually good and present prospects point to a good flow from this source. In some sections swarming has become quite heavy and large commercial beekeepers fear that if the clover flow is unusually heavy swarming may become a serious problem because of lack of sufficient skilled labor.

Indiana and Illinois. Rains during much of this period further delayed farming operations and confined bees to their hives during much of the time, although they were able to obtain a fairly good build-up from dandelion, fruit bloom, poplar, and locust. Most colonies are in strong condition to take advantage of future flows. Yellow sweetclover and white clover are beginning to bloom, and in most sections white clover plants are both plentiful and luxuriant but sweetclover acreage is somewhat short.

Kentucky. This period has been ideal for honey production. There has been just enough rain to keep vegetation growing, with many warm, sunny days for bees to work. Blackberries, locust, white, alsike, and yellow sweetclover have all produced well. In north central Kentucky many strong colonies have two full bodies of honey.

#### NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period May 13 - 27)

New York. The fruit bloom and dandelion flows are about over. In some sections bees built up very well on these, with scale colonies showing gains of around 10-15 pounds. In other sections cold, rainy weather prevented bees from taking full advantage of these flows. Most colonies are in fairly good condition. Actual winter losses were only about normal, but in many yards there was considerable spring dwindling. Moisture conditions are generally favorable and in most sections clover looks promising, although in some districts stands are poor and growth has been slow. Very little swarming has been reported. Some honey is still moving to market. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. White Clover in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 15¢; in small pails 18-20¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢; Buckwheat in single 60s mostly 15¢.

Vermont. Weather during this period was warm in northern Vermont. Bees gathered considerable dandelion honey. Most colonies are building up well and have sufficient honey to carry them until the clover flow. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. White Clover few small pails 17¢.

Connecticut. The fruit bloom was extremely heavy this spring in Connecticut and along with dandelion produced a good flow. Swarming is becoming prevalent. Good rains have fallen recently and prospects for the season are at present good.



Pennsylvania. Considerable rain during this period has increased soil moisture and put plants in prime condition. Between showers bees gathered considerable honey from fruit and various wild flowers. Colony populations are very heavy and with clear weather for the clover flow in June a good crop should be produced. In northern Pennsylvania locust began to bloom around the end of May and raspberries will bloom around June 10.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period May 13 - 27)

Maryland. A fairly good flow has been on in Maryland since the middle of May. Locusts did not produce as well as had been hoped for in view of the very heavy bloom. Tulip poplar produced some honey, although during a portion of this period low humidity limited the flow from this source. Yellow sweet, white and alsike clovers were in full bloom at the end of the period and producing fairly well. Very little swarming has taken place.

West Virginia. There is a heavy honey flow now on in the mountain areas from locust and blackberries. Some colonies have already stored 30-40 pound surplus. Clovers and other early summer honey plants are now in excellent condition. Swarming is becoming serious in many sections, with practically all colonies at swarming strength.

Virginia. In western Virginia the poplar flow was very good and prospects are fairly favorable for a sourwood flow. In northeastern Virginia colonies are in strong condition, but gathered relatively little honey from poplar and locust. In some sections clover prospects are fair while in others excessive dry weather has cut clover production. Many colonies are at swarming strength.

North Carolina. After a cold, backward spring with late frosts and freezes bees built up exceptionally well. The honey flow in the eastern part of the State started off better than average but toward the end of this period has come practically to a complete stop - about two weeks earlier than usual. Despite this bees have made a normal crop or slightly more than a normal crop for this date. The flow has been exceptionally good through the Piedmont area and prospects are favorable in the mountains.

South Carolina. The spring honey crop has been made with a fair production in the upper sections of the State. Persimmon is about through blooming and produced a fair crop, although it is not a major source of honey.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period May 11 - 27)

Georgia. The spring honey flows are rapidly drawing to a close. Tulip poplar produced about a normal crop. Tupelo gum and black gum in most sections produced only about 10 percent of a crop. Gallberry and white holly were almost a failure during the first part of the flow on account of excessive rain and cool weather, but later with more favorable weather produced a normal flow and are still yielding a little. Some honey is being removed from the hives and packed but no large lot sales were reported.

Florida. Conditions are very spotted in Florida. In some portions of north Florida plants are yielding normally and fair to good yields are being obtained. In parts of south Florida palmetto and gallberry produced a fairly good crop, while in other sections these produced but little. In north Florida ti-ti produced 30-50 percent of a normal crop, while tupelo and gallberry probably averaged less than 25 percent of a normal crop. Some extracting has been completed. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Gallberry and Ti-ti in barrels 12¢.

Louisiana. In southern Louisiana frequent showers have maintained favorable moisture conditions. On some days bees were unable to work but on most days scale hives showed gains of one to five pounds. The clover flow in this section began about a month later than usual because of the cool, windy, wet April. The spring crop in southern Louisiana will be smaller than usual. Strong colonies have some capped honey that can be extracted, but weak colonies have gained little. In northern Louisiana cool, rainy days have hampered bees and many colonies showed a daily loss running as high as three or four pounds. Swarming has been extremely heavy. Unless weather conditions improve greatly within the near future, prospects are that the crop in northern Louisiana will be light.



TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of May. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: 2800 cases extracted honey Iowa arrived. Supplies light. Demand fair, market about steady. Few brokers delivered sales to jobbers and large retailers -

EXTRACTED: IOWA, Sweetclover Light Amber, 1-lb. jar \$3.17 per doz.

COMB: No supplies on market.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by rail, 1 car Calif; by truck 240 lbs. Ill., 6,480 lbs. Mich.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand slow, market about steady. Sales to bakers and other large users - MICHIGAN, 60-lb. tins Clover, Amber few 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. ILLINOIS, cases two dozen, 1-lb. glass jars Mixed Flowers \$5.86 per case. (Correction: In all reports since Jan. 1 basis of sale should read "sales to bakers and other large users" instead as published.)

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ -43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: No arrivals reported. Demand moderate, market steady at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers - COLORADO and IDAHO, Alfalfa White Sweetclover, glass, cases, 12, 2-lb. \$5.43-5.65; 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. \$6.90; 24, 8-oz. \$3.16-3.30; 24, 1-lb. \$6.00-6.15.

BEESWAX: Receipts approximately 300 lbs. Demand fair, market steady. Dealers paying 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. for Domestic crude.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, extracted, no arrivals; beeswax 300 lbs.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling. Sales to wholesale grocers - U. S. No. 1 blended honey 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04. Sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. jars \$6.22.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail, origin not specified 2 cars; 250 lbs. Ohio; 849 lbs. Texas; by boat origin not specified 2,212 bbls., 297 tons. Supplies imported increased. Offerings increasing. Demand moderate, market steady at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Very few sales to jobbers and manufacturers - Domestic, nothing offered. Imported, sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling prices as follows: 20,000 lbs. or over unprocessed 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, processed 13¢; less than 20,000 lbs. but not less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, processed 14¢; less than 1500 lbs. unprocessed 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; processed 15¢; plus freight.

BEESWAX: Origin not specified by boat 66 bags. Supplies light. Demand exceeds supply, market strong at ceiling. Sales by receivers port of entry - SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun-bleachable 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by rail 81,635 lbs. Calif.; by truck 10,200 lbs. N.J. Demand light, market steady.

EXTRACTED: CALIFORNIA, Sweetclover, 1 dozen, 5-lb. cans \$10.18, 1 dozen, 2-lb. jars \$4.82; 2 dozen, 1-lb. jars \$5.38; 60-lb. cans Sweetclover, Wild Blossom and Sage 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. NEW JERSEY, Lima Bean 600-lb. drums 15¢ per lb.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, extracted 1,560 lbs. bottled Midwestern. No sales reported.

PORTLAND: No receipts reported. Supplies light. Practically no demand. Stocks offered at slightly reduced prices, with almost no results.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other large buyers - CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers, Light Amber, case lots, glass jars 24, 1-lb. \$5.80; 12, 2-lb. \$5.42; 12, 3-lb. \$7.92. OREGON, Light Amber 24, 8-oz. \$3.20.

ST. LOUIS: Trading limited, market firm. Sales by commission merchants and wholesalers to retailers -

EXTRACTED: COLORADO, Alfalfa Light Amber, cartons 12, 2-lb. jars \$6.20; 12, half-pound jars \$1.88. IOWA, Mixed Flowers Amber, cartons 12, 1-lb. jars \$3.00. ILLINOIS, Mixed Flowers Light Amber 1-lb. jars 27¢; 3-lb. jars 71¢.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND and ALAMEDA: Receipts from Central California via truck: 278 cases White to Water White Orange, 76 cases Light Amber Mixed Fruit Bloom; origin not specified 19,200 pounds Light Amber Wild Flowers. Some dockside sales Imported, Light Amber Wild Flower 13¢.

REVISED BEESWAX CEILING REGULATION

RMPR 264 issued May 30 by the Office of Price Administration and effective on that date, restores f.o.b. ceiling on imported crude beeswax at country of origin. The maximum price for crude, pure beeswax in ton lots or more f.o.b. ocean port of origin (or f.o.b. the U. S. border point of arrival on rail or truck shipments from Mexico) are 38¢ per lb. on beeswax imported from South and Central America, Mexico, and the Carribean area, and 31 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢ on imports from Africa.

Maximum selling prices in ton lots or more f.o.b. U. S. Port of arrival on beeswax from South and Central America, Mexico and the Carribean area is 44.75¢ per lb., and from Africa 37.5¢ per lb. These prices are based on net landed weight and on an ocean freight rate of \$2.00 per cwt., marine insurance at 1/2 percent and war risk insurance at 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  percent from South and Central America and the Carribean area and 3 percent for shipments from Africa. For sales in lots of less than a ton additional mark-ups are provided, varying with the quantity sold. Ceiling prices on domestic crude beeswax f.o.b. beekeepers shipping point remain unchanged at 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash or 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ in trade. No maximum resale prices on crude domestic beeswax are effective. This regulation provides for maximum prices on refined and bleached beeswax, which are unchanged from those in the original regulation. Complete copies of RMPR 264 may be obtained from the Office of Price Administration, Washington, D. C.

- - - - -

Released June 5, 1944.

meb



JUN 24 1944

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Washington 25, D. C.  
June 15, 1944.

Telephone - REpublic 4142,  
Extension 2176.

A SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol XXVIII - NO. 12

SUMMARY

Honey-producing conditions are extremely variable over the country at this time. In the Intermountain area and a large portion of the Plains Area the season has been very backward with unfavorable weather, with the result that colonies have built up slowly and have been unable to take advantage of most of the early flows. White clover and yellow sweetclover are now blooming over much of the Northeast, North Central, and Plains Area, and white sweetclover should begin producing during the latter part of June. Over the clover-producing area, where a large proportion of the honey crop is produced in normal years, moisture conditions are unusually favorable and clover plants are making a luxuriant growth. Weather during the latter half of June and the first week or two of July will largely determine the size of this crop. Given favorable weather for flying a large crop should be in prospect. In California bees are at present making little more than a living. The orange crop was below normal and prospects are at present only fair for a crop from sage, buckwheat, and star thistle. In the Southeast, with the exception of Florida, a fairly good early honey crop has been produced. In Georgia and Alabama gallberry produced well and both bees and plants are now in good condition. For the country as a whole colonies are in better condition than at this time last year, although in some areas, especially on the Pacific Coast, the Intermountain area and portions of the Plains Area, considerable late feeding has been necessary.

Some honey has been extracted in the Southeast, the Southwest and in southern California. Demand for new honey has been very good. Apparently less honey is being packed locally this year than last. All sales reported have been at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb. regardless of flavor or color, in case to ton lots, and around 15¢ per lb. in single 60s to consumers. Supplies of old honey are apparently largely out of beekeepers hands although an occasional sale was reported from various sections of the country at ceiling levels. Offerings of beeswax have been somewhat lighter with fairly good demand continuing at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash and 43½¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

CALIFORNIA: (Period May 22-June 7)

Southern California. The weather during late May and early June was unsettled with considerable cloudiness and fog and many days with temperatures running below normal. The orange flow was disappointing in most sections. In Orange County this flow was probably close to average with many colonies producing a 45-50 pound average. On the other hand, the average in San Bernardino County will probably be around 15 pounds and for the orange district as a whole may not run much over 20 pounds per colony. In San Diego County a fairly good black sage honey crop was gathered in more favorable localities. On the other hand, in some of the mountain districts of this County bees barely held their own and in some localities feeding was necessary. Wild buckwheat, sumac, and white sage have been backward due to low temperatures. Practically all migratory bees have been moved from the orange districts to desert and mountain locations, with some having been taken out of the State. Some orange and black sage honey has been extracted, but offerings have been rather limited. Demand has been good at the ceiling of \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds f.o.b. country points for all types of honey. Demand for beeswax continues good at the ceiling of 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.



Imperial Valley. The weather has been cooler than usual for this season. All plants have been late blooming. The cantaloup crop is the latest since 1922. Alfalfa, cantaloup, clover, and arrowweed are all producing at present. Honey buyers have been active in this section with all sales at the ceiling of \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds.

Central California. During this period the weather has been generally unfavorable, with cool, cloudy, windy weather accompanied by scattered light showers in the San Joaquin Valley. Colonies are about normal in strength but have stored little surplus honey in most sections. The orange flow probably will average little better than 20 pounds per colony. In the coastal areas the sage flow is very spotted. Buckwheat, however, looks fairly good with indications for a fair crop. Offerings of honey have been limited, with a very active demand from bottlers. Buyers are experiencing considerable difficulty in locating any large lots of honey, especially Orange. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, Water White Orange, Amber Prune and Light Amber Mixed Fruit Bloom, in case to ton lots 12¢.

Northern California. Considerable cool, cloudy, windy weather accompanied by light rains prevailed in the northern part of the State. During the latter part of the period heavy drying winds hit the Sacramento Valley. There has been a dearth of honey during this period and heavy feeding has been necessary in many localities. Some bees have been moved to the carrot seed fields in the Sacramento River Delta area. In some sections hot drying winds toward the end of the period greatly damaged the star thistle crop, while in other sections late rains have benefited this crop so that conditions look more favorable than earlier. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, Manzanita and Plum Extra Light Amber to Amber in ton lots or more 12¢.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period May 22-June 7)

West of Cascades. Many cloudy days with light showers have prevented bees from taking advantage of the flow from cane berries, clover, alfalfa, vetch, and lupine. Vetch began blooming quite heavily about May 25 but only about 75 percent of the colonies were at full strength and because of weather conditions this flow will likely be lighter than normal. Along the coast Scotch broom is still blooming and in the foothills snowberries are furnishing some feed. For the section as a whole bees are reported in only fair condition.

East of Cascades. Weather conditions have been such that bees could not take advantage of what little nectar was available during this period. In many yards heavy feeding has been necessary. Some colonies are in strong condition while others are still below normal. Reports continue to come in of rather heavy losses in orchard sections from spray poisoning. In the Yakima Valley white clover, yellow sweetclover and alfalfa were just beginning to bloom at the end of this period. The alfalfa crop is being cut rapidly, however, so was producing little.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period May 24-June 8)

Cool, wet weather prevailed over this entire area so that in most sections bees could not take full advantage of the dandelion and fruit flow. In some localities feeding was necessary, while in others bees were able to obtain sufficient honey to carry them through until the main clover-alfalfa flows, which should become fairly heavy late in June or early July. Moisture and plant conditions are favorable and given favorable weather present prospects are good for a fairly heavy alfalfa-clover flow. The only sales of honey reported were a few lots of Colorado Alfalfa Clover in case to ton lots at 12¢ per lb. f.o.b. Details by States follow:

Colorado. While conditions have been more favorable during late May and early June than previously it is still cold in the mountain areas. In some sections bees did fairly well on dandelion and fruit bloom, while in others insufficient honey was obtained for any build up. Some colonies are still rather weak. In the lower elevations yellow sweetclover began producing during this period and alfalfa will be yielding shortly after mid-June.

Wyoming. The spring has been late in Wyoming. The weather continues cool and damp, with only about one favorable working day per week. Many colonies have had to be fed although in some sections enough nectar was obtained from early spring flowers to provide feed. Many colonies have built up well while others are still rather weak. Moisture conditions are unusually favorable and present prospects point to a favorable summer flow, although it will be later than usual, beginning probably around July 1.



Montana. Rainfall was heavier than usual for this season over most of Montana. Moisture conditions are now unusually favorable. Yellow sweet-clover has started to bloom, but bees have been able to work it only during limited periods. Alfalfa is growing unusually well and should begin producing around July 1. In some yards bees are in strong condition to take advantage of any flows, but in others have built up slowly.

Idaho. The weather remained cool and stormy during most of this period, with more than normal rainfall. However, during short period of sunshine strong colonies obtained sufficient dandelion honey so that feeding will not be necessary until white honey is available. The main clover flow will probably be ten days to two weeks late, coming on in early July. In some sections prospects look fairly good, while in others they are somewhat below normal.

Utah. Late May and early June were the wettest in a good many years in this State. Most colonies have, however, been able to obtain sufficient honey for current needs and have built up fairly well to take advantage of future flows, although it is likely there will be little increase from division of colonies.

ARIZONA: (Period May 24-June 8)

In southeastern Arizona scale colonies recorded the first gains of the season during this period. At the end of the period strong colonies were gaining around five pounds per day from mesquite. Prospects for a flow from catsclaw and mesquite are good in some areas, but in others are rather poor. In many of the desert sections of southern Arizona dry, windy weather continues. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, Mesquite, in single 60s  $13\frac{1}{4}\phi$ , in small pails 15-18 $\phi$ , in 1-lb. glass jars  $22\frac{1}{2}\phi$ .

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period May 25-June 10)

East and Southeast Texas. Horsemint is yielding fairly well, but many colonies are weak from heavy package shaking and many will be only able to build up on this flow. On the other hand, colonies not used for package production should produce a fairly good crop of horsemint honey. In many colonies used for package production queens are still laying, while in others queens are laying very little because of a shortage of pollen. There is little new honey on the market in this section, but the retail trade is fairly well supplied with honey shipped in from the north and also some Mexican honey.

Lower Rio Grande Valley. The package season is fast drawing to a close in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Bees are obtaining some honey from cotton. Cotton dusting has been rather heavy recently and while losses so far have been light it is expected that some losses will be reported shortly. Recent rains have relieved the drought in this area for the time being, although more rain will be needed. Honey has moved well, with buyers and packers taking it as rapidly as it is being extracted. Some reports indicate that a larger proportion of the crop is being sent to packers this year than last season when many beekeepers packed their own honey locally. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, Citrus Light Amber in case to ton lots 12 $\phi$ , in small pails  $15\frac{1}{2}\phi$ .

Southwest and West Texas. Considerable rain has fallen in this area during the past period, in many sections delaying the mesquite bloom. In some sections mesquite is now blooming and some surplus is being made from this source and also from horsemint. Huajillo and catsclaw produced little, in fact many beekeepers obtained no surplus whatsoever from these flows. In general colonies are in fairly good condition to take advantage of any flows which may develop. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, Huajillo, in single 60s to ton lots 12 $\phi$ .

New Mexico. Conditions are still unfavorable in the Mesilla Valley. Early nectar flows have been very light. Recent rains may help the situation somewhat although hail has damaged some crops.

Oklahoma. The white sweetclover flow is just getting under way. Rains have provided ideal moisture conditions but prevented bees from taking full advantage of this flow. However, some surplus is being made in most yards.

Arkansas. The weather has been quite dry in eastern Arkansas, cutting the nectar flow short. Along the White River a fairly good crop of honey has been produced.



PLAINS AREA: (Period May 25-June 10)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. In most sections of the Red River Valley bees are building up very well. Yellow sweetclover began producing in the vicinity of Fargo around June 5 and will be supplemented shortly after the middle of June by white sweetclover. In general moisture conditions are favorable and the clover crop has grown well although in many sections the acreage of sweetclover is far below either last year or normal. In some sections the number of colonies has been somewhat reduced as compared with either last season or normal.

Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri. Much of this period was unseasonably cool and wet. Portions of Iowa and Missouri have had the wettest season in a good many years. Bees have generally built up slowly and there has been considerable spring dwindling in most sections. Most package colonies have built up slowly and considerable difficulty was encountered in establishing packages. Yellow sweetclover has been blooming for some time and in portions of Kansas and Nebraska white sweetclover has begun to produce. In most areas the acreage of sweetclover is greatly reduced and bee pasture may be rather short. White clover has been producing in Missouri although the flow has been light on account of excessive rain. Over this area as a whole white clover is fairly plentiful.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period May 27 - June 12)

Michigan. On the upper peninsula bees have built up fairly well for the clover flow, the first few blooms of which were seen during the latter part of the period. However, clover is rather scarce on the upper peninsula this year. On the lower peninsula weather was favorable during the dandelion and fruit flows in most sections with the result that colonies have built up fairly well. The clover flow is getting well under way in the southern part of the State. However, rainy weather during the early part of the clover flow prevented bees from taking full advantage of it. Toward the middle of the month, however, weather conditions were greatly improved and many colonies were building good surpluses. With very good moisture and plant conditions prevailing at present, prospects for a heavy clover crop look the best in a number of years.

Wisconsin. Most colonies built up well on the dandelion and early fruit flows, but were able to work but little during the early part of June because of cool, rainy weather. Alsike and white clover are beginning to bloom. Plants are both plentiful and luxuriant, and given a period of mild clear weather during the next few weeks bees should be able to make a good clover crop. In some yards nosema has been reported and also many queens have died for some unknown reason. In western Wisconsin basswood is heavily budded at this time. While some swarming has been reported it has not yet become serious in most yards.

Minnesota. Most of early June was cold and rainy preventing bees from flying much. Condition of colonies is very spotted. In some localities they are reported to be in the best condition in a number of years, while in others they are reported weaker than normal although generally in better condition than at this time last season. Package colonies which were established during favorable weather and given good care have built up fairly well. White clover is fairly plentiful and is beginning to produce. Basswood is also well budded in most sections. The amount of good flying weather during the next two or three weeks will largely determine the size of the early summer crop.

Ohio. Conditions are rather spotted in Ohio with regard to the clover flow. In southern Ohio colonies have built up fairly well and are apparently making good progress on alsike, white clover and yellow sweetclover. On the other hand, in the northern part of the State unfavorable weather has kept bees from gathering much and some colonies are still in rather poor condition to take advantage of the flow. Moisture conditions are good over the entire State and clover plants generally are luxuriant although in some sections the acreage is somewhat reduced. Taken as a whole present prospects point to a good crop in southern Ohio and if given favorable weather conditions, an average or better than average crop in northern Ohio. A little nosema has shown up in some sections but there has been little indication of foulbrood. Winter and spring losses were generally light.

Illinois and Indiana. In the Northern portions of these states weather was favorable during the latter part of May and the first few days of June. Since then it has been cool and cloudy with some rain so that bees have been able to work only part time on the early clover flows. On the other hand it



has become rather dry in southern Illinois. White, alsike and yellow sweetclovers are blooming over most of these States and white sweetclover is just beginning to bloom. Moisture and plant conditions are generally favorable and at present prospects look favorable for a good clover flow, provided weather is favorable for honey gathering. Demand has been fairly good for old crop honey but little has been available. Sales f.o.b. per lb., extracted, Illinois Clover-Heartsease in single 60s and bulk to consumers 15¢; Indiana Buckwheat in small pails 22¢.

Kentucky. In north-central Kentucky weather during this period was ideal for honey production. There was just enough rain to keep plants thrifty and blooming, but not enough to interfere with bees working. White, alsike, and yellow sweetclovers are producing heavily and white sweetclover is just beginning to yield. Hives are heavy with brood and unsealed honey. There has been little swarming in well managed yards. No honey sales were reported but beeswax moved at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period May 29-June 13)

New York. Weather during the early part of June was unfavorable for bees, with considerable rain and low temperatures. Over most of the State white clover and yellow sweetclover have been blooming for a week or more but little nectar has been gathered. In some sections bees have built up well while in others colonies are still rather weak. For the State as a whole clover plants are in good condition with favorable moisture conditions. Basswood is well budded in most localities and should begin blooming between June 15 and 20th. In some sections nosema has been rather prevalent. Little old crop honey remains in beekeepers hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, White Clover in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 15¢, a few low as 12¢; in small pails 18-19¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢; Buckwheat in single 60s 15¢. Beeswax 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Vermont. The weather was very dry during this period but a good rain on June 10 broke the dry spell. Clovers are just beginning to bloom. It now appears that considerable old clover and alfalfa winter-killed rather badly. Pasture clover is more abundant than meadow clovers. Bees have had good honey stores but have built up slowly. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- per lb., Clover in small pails 17¢.

Connecticut. During May bees were able to gain sufficient honey to make a strong build-up. Rainfall during May was light but a good rainfall during early June improved moisture conditions and prospects now appear favorable for the early summer flows. Swarming has been prevalent where supering was delayed.

New Jersey. Colonies are generally in very good condition to take advantage of the clover flow which is just beginning to yield. Alsike clover has yielded well and yellow sweetclover is just beginning to bloom. Most sections of the State have been rather dry, but local showers have improved conditions in some areas. There has been some swarming where early supering was neglected.

Pennsylvania. Reports from central Pennsylvania indicate that fairly good rainfall has put plants in good condition and to date prospects look better than average. Swarming has been more prevalent than usual.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period May 29-June 13)

Maryland. The honey flow in the vicinity of Washington, D. C. has slowed down to almost no gain. On warm humid days scale hives showed a gain of up to five pounds from clovers, mostly sweetclover, but these gains are largely offset by losses on cool, cloudy days. This area is becoming quite dry and clovers are suffering. The tulip poplar flow is over and the yield was below normal. It now looks like the honey crop will be much better than last year but not as large as was in prospect a few weeks ago.

South Carolina. In the northern or Piedmont section a fair crop of honey is being gathered. Tupelo and gallberry produced better than average in the southern part of the State. Sumac is in full bloom in the vicinity of Clemson and sufficient honey is coming in for bees to draw new comb. Sourwood will be in bloom in the mountains around June 20.



SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period May 27-June 12)

Georgia. In south Georgia the spring crop was heavier and of better quality than earlier expected. In fact some beekeepers report the best spring crop in about four years. The gallberry flow was of long duration and yielded heavily in most sections. Saw palmetto is yielding well in some sections; in others there is little for bees to work on except miscellaneous weeds which are providing a living. Present prospects point to a good flow from lowbush laurel and pepperbush. Some honey is being extracted. Demand has been fairly good at ceiling prices. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Dark Mixed Flowers - bulk comb in small pails 17¢; extracted in small pails 20¢.

Florida. The spring honey crop has largely been extracted. The honey was of very heavy body because of dry weather. In north Florida the crop was shorter than last season. The summer rainy season has set in in south and east Florida, but much of the west coast area is still very dry.

Alabama. In southern Alabama the weather was dry during most of this period, with only local showers. Colonies are in good condition. Some gallberry honey has been extracted. Fall honey plants are making fair growth but need rain at this time. Package bees are about all shipped and some orders are already being received for 1945 delivery of packages and queens.

Louisiana. In southern Louisiana weather conditions have been favorable and bees have worked actively on white Dutch clover and blue vervain, obtaining a fairly good gain. While this period has been drier than any since December there is still ample moisture and light showers have kept plants in fairly good condition. Some extracting is being done. In northern Louisiana present prospects for a honey crop are better than during the past month. Rains have been less frequent with many hot, clear days so that colonies have made fairly heavy gains.

- - - - -

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of June. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals reported. Supplies very light. Demand fair, market rather dull. Few brokers' sales delivered to jobbers and large retailers -

EXTRACTED: IOWA, Sweetclover Light Amber 1-lb. jars \$3.17 per dozen.

COMB: No supplies on market.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by truck, 6,000 lbs. Mich.; no rail receipts reported.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand light, market steady. Sales to bakers and other large users - MICHIGAN, 50-lb. tins Buckwheat, few 15¢ per lb.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 41½-43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: Receipts: extracted, 1 car Idaho (approximately 60,000 lbs.); comb none; beeswax 600 lbs.

EXTRACTED: Demand moderate, market steady at ceiling. Sales to retailers - COLORADO and IDAHO, Alfalfa and White Sweetclover, glass, cases 12, 2-lb. \$5.45-5.65; 12, 2½-lb. \$6.90; 24, 1½-lb. \$3.16-3.39; 24, 1-lb. \$6.00-6.15.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, 450 lbs. beeswax.

EXTRACTED: Practically no supplies on the market. Demand very good, market firm. Sales to wholesale grocers - U. S. No. 1 blended honey 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04. Sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$6.22.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: origin not specified, 5 cars, 70 tons, 20 packages. Demand light, market at new ceiling. Few sales reported.

EXTRACTED: Very few sales to jobbers and manufacturers - Domestic, nothing offered. Imported, sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling price as follows: per lb. - Warehoused by dealer in U.S.A: 12,000 or over 11½¢, less than 12,000 lbs. but not less than 1500 lbs. 12½¢, less than 1500 but not less than 300 lbs. 13½¢, less than 300 lbs. 14½¢.

BEESWAX: Origin not specified 187 barrels, 10 tons arrived. Supplies light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales by receivers port of entry - SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢; non-sun-bleachable 41½¢.

- continued -



PHILADELPHIA: No arrivals reported. Demand light, market dull. No prices available. Beeswax, no offerings.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, extracted, 2,400 lbs. bottled Midwestern, 1200 lbs. Iowa.

EXTRACTED: Demand slow. Sales by wholesalers to retailers - IOWA, Mixed Flowers, cartons 2 dozen, 1-lb. jars \$5.75.

PORTLAND: No arrivals reported. Supplies very light. Demand good, market firm.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other large buyers - CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers, Light Amber, case lots, glass jars 24, 1-lb. \$5.80; 12, 2-lb. \$5.42; 12, 3-lb. \$7.92. OREGON, Light Amber 24, 8-oz. \$3.20.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts very light. Trading limited, market firm. Sales by commission merchants and wholesalers to retailers -

EXTRACTED: COLORADO, Alfalfa, Light Amber, cartons 12, 2-lb. jars \$6.20; 12, 1-lb. jars \$3.27; 12, 1/2-lb. jars \$1.88. ILLINOIS, Mixed Flowers, Light Amber 1-lb. jars 27¢; 3-lb. jars 71¢.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND and ALAMEDA: Receipts from Central California via truck - 656 cases White to Water White Orange, 140 cases Light Amber Mixed Fruit Bloom; 25 cases Amber Prune; from Southern California via truck - 440 cases White to Extra White Mesquite, 954 cases White to Water White Orange.

- - - - -

Released: June 17, 1944

MEB





M34 Ho

Reserve

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
Office of DistributionLIBRARY  
CURRENT SERIAL RECORD

JUL 18 1944

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Washington, 25, D. C.  
July 1, 1944.Telephone - Republic 4142  
Extension 2176

## SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII - No. 13

## SUMMARY

Bees are active in practically all sections of the country. A late spring in portions of the Intermountain Region has delayed the nectar flows. In portions of the Northeast excessive rain and cool weather has prevented bees from taking full advantage of the early clover flow. Over most of the Northeast, North Central and Plains States yellow sweetclover, alsike, and white Dutch clover have been yielding. The main white sweetclover flow will reach its peak during the first half of July. In most sections clover yields to date are running somewhat ahead of this time last year but in portions of the Clover Belt present prospects point to a total flow for the season of only normal or possibly below normal. Much of the South Atlantic and Southeastern area has been unusually dry, with the result that little surplus honey has been obtained during this period. In California the orange crop has been largely extracted, with average yields below both last season and normal. Present prospects are below average for the sage, buckwheat, and star thistle crops. In the Pacific Northwest the early summer flows have been delayed by cool weather, but if conditions improve during early July as the main clover alfalfa flows get under way east of the Cascades a good crop may still be produced. For the country as a whole colonies are in fairly good condition to take advantage of present and future nectar flows. In Ohio, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, some nosema infection has been apparent but in only a few cases has it been serious.

Some honey has been extracted throughout the southern states and California. Extracting of clover honey is expected to begin in the southern Plains Area and North Central states around mid-July. Local demand for honey has been good and many commercial buyers are out trying to contract their next season's supplies. Apparently competition is not as keen as it was at this time last year, however. Considerable quantities of imported honey are still on the market and some packers and wholesalers still have a small carryover of honey. Practically all sales of honey have been reported at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb. f.o.b. beekeepers, in case lots to ton lots or more, or 15¢ per lb. in single 60s to consumers. An occasional lot of dark honey in the south is selling below the ceiling. Demand for beeswax continues fairly good with light offerings at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash or 43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

-----

Under a revision of W.P.B. Order M-63, effective June 22, beeswax no longer requires an import authorization from the War Production Board to be imported into this country. In other words any firm can import beeswax without restriction other than the price ceilings set up in Revised M.P.R. 264, effective May 30. Carnauba wax was also removed from import regulations in this same order.

-----

Effective June 30, the Office of Price Administration made available to any beekeeper who needs sugar to feed bees up to 10 pounds of sugar per bee colony each calendar year. In emergency cases an additional allowance of not to exceed 15 pounds may be obtained. Previously sugar was provided only to commercial beekeepers but this provision makes sugar available to those who keep bees only for pollination or for production of honey for home use. These allotments can be obtained only by certification from the beekeeper's local U.S.D.A. War Board that the bees would be lost if not given emergency feeding. Application for sugar should be made to the local War Price and Rationing Board.

-----



INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

CALIFORNIA: (Period June 7-June 22)

Southern California. Bees are in fairly good condition over most of southern California but have stored little surplus during June. Many bees are being moved to the late summer locations for wild buckwheat and white sage. In most areas drouth is affecting both sage and buckwheat plants. Black sage has passed its peak, white sage is yielding in some localities and buckwheat is beginning to yield along the Coast and will soon begin to yield in the mountains. Much of the Orange honey crop has been extracted. With the exception of Orange County where a crop of 60-70 pounds per colony was obtained, the orange crop was very short. Demand for honey has been very good with fairly heavy deliveries of Orange honey and some deliveries of sage. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, extracted Orange and Sale \$14.40 per case of 120 lbs. Demand for beeswax continues good at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. country points. Present supplies of beeswax are light.

Central California. Weather conditions were generally favorable. Many beekeepers are discouraged over the yields from orange and sage, and the light yield to date from buckwheat and other wild flowers. Beekeepers have been moving their colonies around considerably and seem perplexed to find desirable locations. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted, Alfalfa-Clover, Light Amber Mixed Flowers, White to Water White Orange, and White Sage 12¢ per lb., in case to ton lots or more.

Northern California. Weather during most of this period has been windy and too cool for storing of much honey. Many colonies are losing weight. A little honey is being obtained from alfalfa, clover, yellow star thistle, California poppy, orchard morning glory, varnish tree, squash, and asparagus. Colonies with young queens generally are in good condition but many colonies with older queens have built up very slowly. At present prospects are not favorable for a normal honey flow. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, extracted Light to Extra Light Amber Asparagus-Mustard-Ladino Clover, 12¢ per lb.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period June 7 - June 22)

West of Cascades. A good flow from vetch and clover developed during the latter part of this period. This flow will, however, be over early in July. Some vetch fields are badly infested with aphids. Along the coast Scotch broom continues to bloom and in the lower altitudes of the Coast Range an occasional fireweed bloom can be found. Alfalfa in southern Oregon is furnishing good bee pasture.

East of Cascades. Temperatures have ranged from just above freezing in the higher altitudes to a maximum in the 90s in eastern Oregon. Showers occurred in many localities which were helpful to sweetclover and alfalfa. Bees as a whole are in fairly good condition although some are still weak from spray poisoning. Honey yields to date have been disappointing. Yellow sweetclover has produced some pasturage. White sweetclover and alfalfa will be blooming by early July so the main summer flow should come during that period. Considerable alfalfa land has been plowed up and planted to peas, beans, and some other non-nectar producing crops.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION (Period June 8- June 24)

Colorado and Utah enjoyed unusually favorable conditions during the latter part of this period. In portions of Colorado the early summer flow has been the heaviest in years. In the other States in the region unseasonably cool, wet weather has delayed honey production. Plant and moisture conditions are generally favorable although portions of the Western Slope of Colorado have had drying winds. Storage moisture in the mountains is plentiful. White sweetclover and alfalfa will be producing in all sections during early July. Little old crop honey remains in this section and no extracting of new crop has been reported. An occasional sale of old crop Clover-Alfalfa extracted honey was made at the f.o.b. ceiling of 12¢ per lb. in case lots or more



and 15¢ per lb. in single 60s to consumers. Beeswax sold at 40½-41½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers. Details by States follow:

Colorado. A good nectar flow is on in most sections of Colorado. In the north central portion of the State the early summer flow has been the heaviest in a number of years. In the Arkansas and San Luis Valleys first cutting alfalfa is yielding well. However, in the San Luis Valley many colonies are still weak and there is some shortage of sweetclover. On the Western Slope wild flowers have been plentiful and alfalfa is beginning to yield. Weather has been dry on the Western Slope, with drying winds, but plants have not yet been affected. Swarming has been heavy in all sections. In eastern Colorado extracting will soon get under way.

Wyoming. Conditions are still unsettled over most of Wyoming. Cool wet weather prevailed until almost the end of this period, necessitating feeding in some localities. The weather has not injured strong colonies but many weak colonies will not be in condition to take advantage of the early summer flows. Many queens have been lost this spring. Much alfalfa and yellow sweetclover has been cut prior to blooming. White sweetclover will begin blooming during early July.

Montana. Montana has had more June rain than for many years. Yellow sweetclover is blooming and on clear days some honey is being stored. Some colonies are short of stores, especially where little dandelion honey was gathered. Honey plants are generally in good condition but cool weather is delaying bloom. Some pests are damaging alfalfa. Swarming is quite serious in some sections, especially where beekeepers are behind on their beeyard work.

Idaho. In the middle and eastern Snake River Valley bees are in good condition with brood combs well filled with brood and only limited swarming. While little surplus honey has been stored most hives have been able to make a living. Honey plants, especially sweetclover, look promising at this time with ample moisture.

Utah. Weather at the end of the period was ideal for bees. Yellow sweetclover was in full bloom and other honey plants were in good condition. Swarming has been serious, with many package bees swarming - an unusual condition for this area.

Nevada. Weather over all Nevada has been unfavorable for honey production. Western Nevada has had subnormal temperatures and high winds. Central and Eastern Nevada has had almost daily rains so that very little honey has been stored despite the fact that plants have bloomed unusually heavily.

ARIZONA: (Period June 8- June 24).

In the Yuma section and the Salt River Valley colonies are making good gains on alfalfa and mesquite. In the Salt River Valley these two nectar sources came on at the same time, with the result that bees which were moved to mesquite missed most of the alfalfa flow. In this area many colonies have stored up to 60 lbs. of honey to the end of this period. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, extracted Mesquite in single 60s, 13¼-15¢; in small pails 18¢.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period June 10 - June 26).

Northeast Texas. Horsemint is making the best yield in years in this section. Cow-itch and Chittam are beginning to yield. Strong colonies have already stored considerable surplus. Moisture has been plentiful all spring but in some sections rain is now needed.

East Texas. The horsemint flow has not been as good as expected but prospects for other summer flows are normal or above. Colonies which were shaken heavily are building up slowly.

Southeast Texas. Little rain has fallen in this section and the soil is becoming very dry. In the vicinity of Bay City high temperatures have about ended the horsemint flow. Further south mesquite continues to yield well. One beekeeper reports having already extracted an average of 35 pounds per colony with prospects of another 30 or 40 pounds unless the flow is cut short.

Lower Rio Grande Valley. Sunflowers are still yielding and are about the only source of nectar at this time. Many colonies are very weak from cotton poisoning. Some losses as high as 50 percent have been reported. Most honey is moving at the ceiling, although some dark honey is being discounted slightly.

Southwest Texas. The flow from horsemint is about over with yields not up to earlier expectations. This appears to be especially true in the sandy land sections. Huajillo and catsclaw were almost a failure in most sections. Mesquite is in bloom and with favorable weather promises to yield a fairly good crop. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, extracted Huajillo, in ton lots 12¢ per lb.

New Mexico. In the Mesilla Valley a light flow is on. However, the second crop of alfalfa is being cut and sweetclover is drying up so prospects are poor for much of a flow before August. In the Upper Rio Grande Valley present prospects are favorable.

Oklahoma. Bees are storing a little surplus from sweetclover. High winds have interfered with flights to some extent.

Arkansas. Bees are making some surplus from sweetclover. The vetch crop was variable. Some beekeepers obtained a fair crop while others got almost nothing. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb., extracted Light Amber Vetch and Crimson Clover in case lots 12¢; in 5-lb. pails 19 1/3¢; in small jars 21 2/3-24¢.

PLAINS AREA: (Period June 10-June 26)

Red River Valley of North Dakota and Minnesota. Most colonies built up well on dandelion and fruit bloom. During this period yellow sweetclover and alfalfa provided some nectar but rain prevented bees from taking full advantage of it. White sweetclover should be yielding well by early July. Good bee pasturage is generally scarce which may account for a lighter than normal crop. Because of the late spring considerable buckwheat has been planted in some sections.

Iowa. Conditions are extremely variable in different portions of the State. Cool wet weather until mid-June delayed colony development and many are still below full working strength. Clovers were in full bloom during this period. In some localities little surplus had been stored. In others, especially in Western Iowa, 60 to 80 pounds of honey had been stored to the end of this period. Clover plants are generally in good condition, with white clover blooming unusually heavily.

Nebraska. The weather during the latter part of this period was hot with some wind. In nearly all sections bees were storing a good surplus from clover. Some colonies had filled two to three full depth supers by the end of this period. The wet unfavorable spring prevented many farmers from plowing up as much sweetclover as they had earlier intended, so the pasture situation is better than expected. Sufficient rain has fallen recently so that a long clover flow can be expected. Some honey will be extracted during early July.

Kansas. A heavy clover bloom is now on with a fairly good acreage of sweetclover. Many colonies have not built up to full working strength so it appears doubtful if a full normal crop of honey will be gathered, at least in some sections. Moisture conditions continue favorable.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period June 12-June 27)

Michigan. Clover is in full bloom over most of Michigan. White Dutch clover is plentiful but the acreage of sweetclover is somewhat below that of recent years. Colonies are generally in fairly strong condition but frequent cloudy, rainy days have prevented them from taking full advantage of the flows. To date the June surplus stored is about the same as that to the same date last year, but probably little better than half of normal. Favorable moisture conditions make a long clover flow probable. Milkweed and wild raspberry are beginning to yield in a limited way and basswood is fully budded but to date yielding little.



Wisconsin. The condition of honey plants is generally good but excessive heavy rains during this period prevented bees from working much of the time with the result that colony gains in most sections have been rather light. In most sections the acreage of clover, especially sweetclover, is rather limited. On the other hand in some localities yellow sweetclover is more plentiful than for several years. In general colonies have built up slowly and only a small proportion is at full working strength. Some colonies are little stronger than when they were unpacked in late April and early May. Basswood was quite heavily budded at the end of this period but this flow will not begin until early July. A little old crop honey is still available. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted Clover in single 60s, 14½-15¢, in small pails 21-22¢. Beeswax 41-41½¢ per lb., cash to beekeepers.

Minnesota. The weather was very unfavorable until around June 20, when it turned warmer with more clear flying days. Alsike clover and yellow sweetclover were in full bloom during this period but white sweetclover was just beginning to bloom in most sections. The main honey flow is expected to reach its peak during the first two weeks of July, and with the present favorable moisture conditions should be of fairly long duration. Sumac and blue vervain are beginning to bloom, and basswood appears to be budded more heavily than in many recent years. The basswood flow should get under way around July 5. Due to the late unfavorable spring much farmland was still unplanted at the end of June and apparently considerably more buckwheat than normal will be planted. Colonies are in generally good condition although some have built up slowly and are still unable to take full advantage of the flows. In some localities noseema has been rather serious.

Ohio. Conditions are very spotted over Ohio. In the southern and central portions of the State rain was needed at the end of the period to prolong the clover flows. In the northern part of the State unseasonably cool, wet weather prevailed. Alsike and yellow sweetclover have practically finished blooming and in most sections white sweetclover is not very plentiful. The quantity of honey stored to date also shows an extremely wide variation depending on location. In some areas almost no surplus has been made, while in others up to 100 pounds have been stored. Most honey so far stored is of unusually light color and good flavor and body. In some sections noseema has shown up but does not appear to be extremely serious. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, Clover in small pails, few sales 19-20¢.

Indiana and Illinois. The southern portions of these states have been rather dry but in northern Illinois and portions of northern Indiana cool, damp, windy weather has prevented bees from taking full advantage of the honey flows. In the southern and central portions of the State fairly good gains have been made from clover. In some sections the crop to date is considerably better than normal while in others it is only average or below. Alsike and yellow sweetclover have about passed their blooming season but white sweetclover is beginning to yield. Most colonies are in fairly good working condition.

Kentucky. In north central Kentucky unseasonably hot weather with little or no rain during this period has severely cut prospects for a heavy production of summer honey. Practically all vegetation is beginning to dry up. There has been little swarming to date.

#### NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period June 13- June 29)

New York. Very little honey has been gathered in any section of New York. Colonies are generally in strong condition and clover is blooming well but cool, rainy weather has prevented bees in most localities from storing any surplus. Many colonies are barely making a living. In western New York a fairly heavy acreage of buckwheat has been planted and is growing well as a result of the abundant moisture. Basswood is just beginning to bloom but has produced little surplus. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted Clover in small pails 18-20¢; Buckwheat in case to ton lots 12-15¢; in 5 lb. pails 16¢; one lb. glass jars 18¢; southwestern Orange, in one lb. glass jars 21¢. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb. cash and 43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Vermont. Much needed rain fell during this period. Bees are building up and gathering some surplus honey. The crop so far is below last season due to the late start. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted White Clover in small pails 17¢.



Connecticut. The nectar flow decreased somewhat during this period with the result that swarming has lessened. Colonies have consumed much of the honey stored in May. Clover is not yielding freely but basswood is providing some surplus. Heavy rains have fallen recently which should provide a good flow from sumac which is the main source of surplus honey in southeastern Connecticut. Colonies are generally in excellent condition.

New Jersey. The weather has been hot and humid during most of this period with ample rainfall to date. Good clover and sumac flows are on.

Pennsylvania. In the mountain areas of Pennsylvania rains and cool weather, with abnormally cool nights have prevented bees from taking full advantage of the clover flow. Also the clover is producing a little nectar with the result that the crop to date is below normal. In southeastern Pennsylvania conditions are somewhat better and fairly good surpluses are being stored.

#### SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period June 13- June 29)

Maryland. In eastern Maryland the early summer honey flow is about over. While clovers are still yielding lightly they are rapidly drying up. Much of this area is becoming unusually dry. In western Maryland basswood is beginning to bloom and is expected to yield fairly heavily this year. Milkweed and sumac are also beginning to bloom. Some colonies have stored up to two supers of honey, while others have scarcely filled the first super.

West Virginia. Strong colonies have stored as much as 60 lbs. of white clover honey in western West Virginia. Good rains have kept the clover crop in thrifty condition.

Virginia. In the Tidewater Section the spring honey flow which closed around June 15 was very satisfactory despite dry weather. In the mountains sourwood began blooming on June 20. Some bees are being moved to the sourwood sections. Local markets have been taking the early honey about as fast as it has been extracted.

North Carolina. The honey crop has been normal to above in the eastern part of the state and much above average in the Piedmont area. The early crop is now being extracted. Bulk comb honey is moving rapidly on the local markets but there has been little call for extracted honey. Sourwood is just beginning to bloom in the mountains but so far has produced very little.

South Carolina. Most sections of the state have been very hot and dry in recent weeks. Mexican clover and cotton are blooming in the southern part of the state but are producing very little. Sourwood is producing well in the mountains with prospects for a fairly good crop from this source. Sumac produced more than usual, especially in the upper portion of the state.

#### SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period June 12- June 27)

Georgia. Southeastern Georgia has been unusually hot and dry. A little nectar has been available from truck crops but colonies have made little more than a living during this period. As a whole bees are in better condition to take advantage of the late summer flow than last year but rain will be needed to revive the summer nectar sources. Considerable gallberry honey was extracted during this period. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Gallberry extracted, in 5 lb. pails, few sales 22¢; bulk comb, one large lot sale 18¢ per lb.

Florida. The weather during this period was hot and dry. There has been little activity among bees with very little nectar being gathered. Present prospects point to a fair crop from cabbage palmetto. Some requeening and movement of bees to summer locations is being done. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted Amber Mangrove in 2-lb. glass jars 18¢.

Louisiana. The weather has been hot, and in some sections of southern Louisiana the soil is becoming rather dry. This has helped the blue vervain flow, which has recently been very good. Pepper vine is also producing. Most colonies are building up rapidly and requeening of yards is becoming general. In southern Louisiana the crop so far is running somewhat lighter than last year. Northern Louisiana has been hot and dry during this period. Colonies are making rapid gains with some having stored around 60 pounds from sweetclover and partridge pea. Demand for honey has been good, with some extracting to supply the local demand. Light Amber Mixed Flower honey is selling at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb. in case to ton lots, and 15¢ per lb. in single 60s to consumers.



TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of June. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals reported. Supplies very light. Demand light, market dull. Few brokers sales, holdovers, delivered to jobbers and large retailers -

EXTRACTED: IOWA, Sweetclover, Light Amber, 1-lb. jars \$3.17 per dozen.

COMB: No supplies on market.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by rail, origin not specified 5 cars. No truck receipts reported.

EXTRACTED: Nothing offered. No jobbing. No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 41½-43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: No receipts extracted or comb; 700 lbs. beeswax.

EXTRACTED: Demand moderate, market steady at ceiling. Sales to retailers-COLORADO and IDAHO, Alfalfa and White Sweetclover, glass, cases 12, 2-lb. \$5.45-5.65; 24, 1½-lb. \$3.16-3.39; 24, 1-lb. \$6.00-6.15.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals by truck extracted 15, 60-lb. cans Minn. White Mixed Clovers.

EXTRACTED: Practically no supplies on the market. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling. Sales to wholesale grocers - U. S. No. 1 blended honey 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04. Sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail, 1 car Calif. 2 cars Origin not specified. Supplies imported liberal and offerings liberal. Demand light, market unsettled. Sales made at ceiling but easier feeling prevailing and buyers holding off.

EXTRACTED: Very few sales to jobbers and manufacturers- Domestic, nothing offered, going to bottlers. Imported, sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling price as follows: per lb. warehoused by dealer in U.S.A. - 12,000 or over 11½¢, less than 12,000 lbs. but not less than 1500 lbs. 12½¢, less than 1500 but not less than 300 lbs. 13½¢, less than 300 lbs. 14½¢.

BEESWAX: Origin not specified 9 tons. Supplies light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales by receivers port of entry - SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES, sun-bleachable 44 ¾¢, non-sun-bleachable 41½¢.

PHILADELPHIA: No arrivals reported. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: No arrivals. Demand very slow, no sales reported.

PORTLAND: Arrivals: 360, 60-lb. cans, origin unreported. Supplies light. Demand good, market firm. Sales to retailers and other large buyers -

EXTRACTED: Case lots, CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers 12, 3-lb. jars \$8.45; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.85; 24, 16-oz. jars \$6.27. CUBA, 60-lb. cans Light Amber 14 ¾¢ per lb.

ST. LOUIS: No arrivals reported. Receipts very light. Trading limited, market firm. Sales by commission merchants and wholesalers to retailers -

EXTRACTED: COLORADO, Alfalfa, Light Amber, cartons 12, 2-lb. jars \$6.20; 12, 1-lb. jars \$3.27; 12, 1½-lb. jars \$1.88. ILLINOIS, Mixed Flowers, Light Amber 1-lb. jars 27¢; 3-lb. jars 71¢.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND and ALAMEDA: Receipts from Central California via truck- 112 cases Extra Light Amber to White Alfalfa Clover, 102 cases Light Amber Fruit Bloom; 119 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers; 327 cases White to Water White Orange; 108 cases White Sage; from Northern California - 115 cases Light to Extra Light Amber Asparagus-Mustard-Ladino Clover; from Southern California- 23 cases White Mesquite, 61 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers, 311 cases White to Water White Orange; Origin not specified - 140,000 lbs. Light Amber Wild Flower.

EXTRACTED: Sales f.o.b. dockside - Imported, Wild Flowers 11½¢ per lb.

BEESWAX: No offerings reported.

KANSAS CITY: Unreported.





1.9  
N 34 Ho

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
Office of Distribution

Telephone - REpublic 4142  
Extension 2176

Washington 25, D. C.  
July 15, 1944.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII - No. 14

SUMMARY

Based on early July reports from beekeepers indications are that the honey crop for 1944 will again be below average. The drouth which began in the South Atlantic States has spread westward through the Ohio Valley and over much of the East Central and North Central States. In the Clover Belt from New York westward to Michigan and Indiana prospects are much less favorable for a normal honey crop than they were in mid-June. Indications are for a better than average crop in Colorado with possibly average crops in Wyoming, Utah, and Montana. Over the rest of the Intermountain region and in the Western States prospects are below average. In the Southwest and Southeast the main crop has been gathered. In portions of Texas yields were average or better while in other sections of the State the crop is below normal. In the Southeast, Georgia will possibly have a normal crop while in the other States of this group indications are below normal.

In the Southern Belt of States considerable honey has been extracted but in the Clover Belt and the Intermountain region little extracting has been done. Quality of the Clover honey is reported as better than average in most sections. This is especially true of the section comb crop. While packers and other large buyers have been active in attempts to contract honey for next season there does not seem to be the feverish activity that existed at this time last season. There is still some honey, both domestic and imported, still in the hands of packers, wholesalers, and retailers. Demand at retail has been light during recent months. Present indications are that many beekeepers will pack and market their crop locally to retailers and consumers as they did last season. Practically all sales continue at ceiling levels of 12¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers in case lots to carlots, and 15¢ per lb. in single 60s to consumers. Occasional lots of dark honey are moving below ceiling.

- - - - -

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

CALIFORNIA: (Period June 22-July 7)

Southern California. Temperatures during the latter part of June were below normal but during early July were up to normal in the interior valleys although the coastal areas had temperatures somewhat below normal with morning fogs. In the orchard areas there was little for bees to work except mustard and various ornamentals and a few miscellaneous ground flowers. In the hills wild buckwheat produced fairly well although it is expected this crop will be below average. White sage continued to yield lightly in some sections and sumac was providing considerable pollen and a little nectar. Robbing has been serious in the orchard sections where the nectar flow is light. Extracting has been light and offerings have been rather limited. Demand has been active for all available supplies at the ceiling of 14.40¢ per case of 120 lbs. f.o.b. country points. Offerings have consisted mainly of Orange and Sage with a little early Buckwheat. Light supplies of beeswax moved out rapidly at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Central and Northern California. In Central California normal summer weather prevailed during much of this period. In Northern California temperatures have been below normal with considerable moisture. In most sections honey production has slowed down with bees in some localities barely holding their own. In Northern California yellow star thistle is beginning to bloom freely although in many non-irrigated sections plants are scarce. Bees are being moved away from some of the tomato sections as a precaution against poisoning. In the Bay Cities area retail demand for honey is improving but is still lighter than a few months ago. In spite of this bottlers have been



unable to obtain sufficient supplies of new crop honey. The general outlook is for a short crop, even with improved weather conditions. Sales f.o.b. shipping point in case to ton lots, extracted - Central California Light Amber Fruit Bloom, Extra Light Amber Alfalfa, White to Extra White Orange, White to Extra White Sage, and Northern California Light Amber Carrot, White Manzanita, and Light Amber Mixed Flowers 12¢ per lb. Some beeswax sold at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period June 22-July 7)

West of Cascades. The main vetch and clover flows are over. Little of this honey has been extracted but some reports indicate a 50 to 60 lb. average yield. Many bees have been moved to the fireweed locations. Fireweed plants are in prime condition and are beginning to yield at the lower elevations. In the higher elevations the fireweed bloom hasn't started. Colonies are in generally good condition. Light offerings of new crop Clover-Vetch honey is moving at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers, in case to ton lots.

East of Cascades. Conditions have improved in this area. June rains kept plants in fairly good condition. Alfalfa and sweetclover are yielding fairly well and colonies are storing considerable surplus. Some honey is also being gathered from basswood, berries, asparagus, and other miscellaneous flowers. Some colonies which were badly weakened by spray poisoning have not yet built up to normal working strength. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb., extracted Mixed Flowers in case lots 12¢, in small pails 20¢.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period June 24 - July 8)

Conditions over most of this area have greatly improved during late June and early July. Colorado is reporting a better than average crop. Wyoming conditions are spotted and while the season is late in Montana prospects are unusually good as a result of a cool, wet, June which put plants in exceptionally good condition. The season is late in Idaho and Nevada with only fair prospects. Little new crop honey has been extracted. Old crop honey is fairly well cleaned up. The quality of the crop so far has been reported as better than normal. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb. - Extracted Clover-Alfalfa, white to extra light amber in case to ton lots 12¢. Details by States follow:

Colorado. In most sections of the State conditions and prospects are now unusually favorable for a normal or better than normal yield. First cutting alfalfa provided a long flow and sweetclover has yielded well. Plants are generally in unusually good condition and irrigation water is holding up well. The honey stored to date is of light color and heavy body.

Wyoming. Conditions are spotted with some areas producing little honey and others showing a 25-35 lb. surplus which is good for this early in the season. In some sections foul brood has been more serious than for a number of years. Many bees are being moved into the irrigated sections from California with the result that some areas may be over-populated to obtain maximum production.

Montana. Cool wet weather during most of June and into early July has put plants in unusually good condition but has prevented bees from taking full advantage of the early alfalfa and yellow sweetclover flows. Colonies are in very good condition so that with warm clear flying weather a good honey crop can be produced. Some package bees have built up very slowly and are still below full working strength.

Idaho. The season in the Snake River Valley is two to three weeks late. Most colonies are in strong condition with ample brood but are at present making little more than a living. Plants are in good condition and moisture is fairly good so given a fairly long blooming season for alfalfa and sweet-clover a fair crop may be produced.

Utah. Most sections of Utah had more rain during June than for many years. Plants are in good condition and colonies which were not too badly weakened by poisoning last fall and winter have built up well. There has been considerable swarming. Good colonies stored considerable surplus honey of unusually light color during late June, a period when there is normally a dearth of nectar.



Nevada. Weather, which was unusually cool and wet during June, turned seasonably warm about July 1. Since that time many colonies have stored some surplus from white and alsike clover. Much first crop alfalfa was cut before coming into full bloom with the result that the surplus from that source has been light.

ARIZONA: (Period June 24- July 8)

In southwest Arizona most desert plants are through blooming excepting ironwood, which is in full bloom, and mesquite which is still yielding lightly in some locations. Alfalfa is now the principal source of nectar. The crop to date in this area is reported as about average. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb., Alfalfa-Mesquite in case to ton lots 12¢; Mesquite in single 60s 14½¢, in small pails 16¢.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period June 26- July 10)

Northeast Texas. The horsemint and chittam flows are pretty well over with a good crop from both. Cow itch and Brunnichia are blooming and where plants are plentiful bees are doing well. On many hives a larger crop has already been produced than for a number of years. Cotton is late and in need of rain.

Southeast Texas. In the vicinity of Bay City rain is badly needed. Honey plants are in poor condition. Bees are making little more than a living although pollen has been abundant recently. Around Kingsville some honey continues to come in from mesquite and cotton.

Southwest and West Texas. The flow from mesquite and cotton has been fair in some sections but very light in others. Averages from these sources to date seem to run from 15 to 30 pounds per colony. Mesquite is still yielding lightly. The main part of the cotton flow is still ahead. With some beekeepers the Huajillo-catsclaw flows were almost complete failures. Other beekeepers reported fair crops. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb.- extracted Huajillo in ton lots to carlots 12¢; Mesquite in case to ton lots 12¢.

New Mexico. In the Mesilla Valley conditions have turned for the better. Alfalfa has provided a fairly good flow since the first of July. A good crop is being gathered in the middle Rio Grande Valley.

Oklahoma. This period was very dry and hot. The sweetclover flow is over with a disappointingly light production. Some alfalfa fields are producing some surplus nectar.

Arkansas. In northern Arkansas extremely dry weather is reducing prospects for a good flow from cotton.

PLAINS AREA: (Period June 26 - July 10)

Red River Valley of North Dakota and Minnesota. White sweetclover has been in full bloom during the latter part of this period but excessively rainy weather has permitted bees to work only about one-half of the time. Some colonies have stored a surplus up to 50 pounds while others have stored a very light surplus. The alsike clover bloom was reported the heaviest in years. Sweetclover acreage is lighter than normal with the result that large commercial beekeepers have had to maintain more outyards with fewer colonies per yard. With the unusually favorable moisture conditions the sweetclover flow should be a long one.

Iowa. The yellow sweetclover flow is over but white Dutch clover and white sweetclover are yielding fairly well in most localities. In some sections strong colonies are storing three to four pounds a day and have a surplus of thirty to fifty pounds of honey. Many colonies, however, are below normal working strength due to the delayed spring build up and failing queens. Some sections of the State have had sufficient showers to maintain plants in good condition while other sections, especially in southern Iowa, need rain. Extracting is expected to get under way around mid-July.

Nebraska. Yellow sweetclover is past its blooming season. White sweetclover is about at its height with strong colonies making rapid gains. However, many colonies are not in prime working condition with the result that it will take a week or ten days to build up. Plants are in good condition and sweetclover is more plentiful than was anticipated earlier in the spring. While some beekeepers expect an abnormally heavy crop the general opinion is that it will be below last year's as a result of the slow late build-up of most colonies.

Kansas. This section was hot and dry during this period, cutting short the clover flow in many areas. Showers with fairly heavy rains in some sections about July 7th improved plant conditions locally. The general opinion is that this year's crop will be very light - possibly not over half a crop - as compared to last year.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period June 27-July 12)

Michigan. Hot dry weather during this period cut short what promised to be a good clover flow. Present prospects point to a crop far below normal unless some late alfalfa may produce. Many colonies have to date made little more than winter stores. On the other hand some progressive beekeepers who fed heavily last spring and requeened a large proportion of their colonies are reporting good surpluses. The white Dutch and alsike clover flows were especially short. Basswood has finished blooming and yielded little or nothing in most localities. Extracting of the clover crop will begin late in July. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb.- Extracted Clover in small pails 19-19.3¢.

Wisconsin. The honey flow has generally been below normal to date. Clovers bloomed heavily during late June and early July but produced little nectar in most sections. Basswood is now producing and in some sections colonies are storing up to eight pounds a day. While drouth conditions do not prevail in any section many localities need rain as pastures and clover plants are beginning to dry up. In some yards foul brood has been prevalent. Extracting will get under way generally late this month. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb.- Extracted Clover in small pails 19-21¢.

Minnesota. While excessive rains have prevented bees from working a portion of the time during early July crop prospects are generally favorable. Most sections report the best basswood flow in a number of years. The alsike clover flow was very short and white Dutch clover did not produce heavily although it bloomed freely. Yellow sweetclover produced fairly well and present prospects are favorable for white sweetclover which is just about at its peak. Some strong colonies have already stored in excess of 100 pounds of honey but the average is probably between forty and fifty pounds. Due to the late wet spring much farm land was unploughed which may make for a good fall flow. Buckwheat acreage will probably be the heaviest on record in this State. As a result much of the honey will be darker than normal. No extracting has been reported yet.

Ohio. Indications are that Ohio will have another very short crop of honey - the third in succession. Practically all of June and early July were extremely dry with temperatures above normal during the latter part of the period. Clovers of all kinds produced little in the northern part of the State. In the southern portion the crop was a little better since some clover honey was gathered before the drouth set in. In some of the better yards in southern and central Ohio sixty to 100 pounds of honey were stored but in the northern part the average will probably be below thirty pounds with the average clover crop for the State not running much above thirty pounds. Quality of the honey, both comb and extracted, is very good. The acreage of buckwheat planted this season is very short, partially due to increased substitution of soy beans. No sales of extracted honey were reported but some comb sold at \$6.25 per case of 24 sections, with cases returned, with reports of sales of single 1-lb. sections at 30-38¢.



Indiana. Weather has been hot and dry. General estimates point to a crop of not much more than thirty pounds of clover honey per colony although some yards in favored locations where white sweetclover yielded well have already stored up to 100 pounds. Local rains at the end of this period improved fall plant conditions temporarily at least. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb. - Extracted Buckwheat in small pails 22¢.

Illinois. This period was hot and dry, especially in the Southern part of the State. Crop conditions are extremely variable. In some sections only a light crop has been stored while in others averages up to 75 pounds per colony have been reported. Clover produced fairly well in some sections during the early part of the season but dry weather cut this flow short in most sections. No extracting has been reported but some comb honey has been sold at \$6.25-6.50 per case of 24 sections, with individual 1-pound sections selling in a small way around 30¢. The quality of the comb honey is the best in a good many years.

Kentucky. Most of Kentucky has been very dry although rains in North central Kentucky on July 12 relieved this situation somewhat. There have been few nectar sources recently. Comb honey is selling locally at around 30¢ per lb. section, with bulk comb at 25¢ per lb.

#### NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period June 29-July 13)

New York. Present prospects over the State as a whole point to an early honey crop at least 25 percent below normal. Hot, dry weather in most sections has adversely affected the clover crop. Basswood is producing well and indications are good for a heavy flow in the sumac sections. In some sections where bloom was plentiful colonies had not built up sufficiently to take advantage of the flow. The season is somewhat later than last year and no extracting has been reported. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb. - Extracted White Clover in small pails 20-21¢; Buckwheat in single 60s, 15¢; in small pails 16 2/3¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 20¢.

Vermont. After a very dry period showers have improved conditions. Hot, humid weather has provided a good flow from clover with the result that the crop is now just slightly under that of last year at this time. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - Extracted Clover in small pails 17¢ per lb.

New Jersey. The clover flow is about over and has been disappointing due to lack of rainfall to maintain plants. The sumac flow has been good in northern New Jersey but further south has been light.

Pennsylvania. The clover flow in most sections was fairly good although in some localities little clover honey was made. Basswood yielded well in most locations but this flow is about over.

#### SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period June 29- July 13)

Maryland. Drouth conditions have been serious through this section although a fairly good rain on July 13th temporarily improved conditions. Bees have been able to store little or nothing during this period. In some yards pine honey dew has been stored in a limited way. Extracting is beginning and while the crop is expected to be below average it is believed it will be heavier than in 1943.

Virginia. A fairly good early crop was produced. Sourwood is now producing in the mountains. In some sections this crop is expected to be about average while other beekeepers expect little more than half a sourwood crop. Except in the Tidewater Section practically all honey plants have dried up so little additional honey other than sourwood can be expected before fall. Nosema has depleted colony populations badly in some sections. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Bulk comb, Mixed Flowers in small pails 20¢, in 1 lb. glass jars 25¢.

West Virginia. Drouth has just about stopped the clover flow. Sourwood is producing some and a little honey dew is being gathered.

North Carolina. The honey crop is being harvested in eastern and central North Carolina. The crop is average in the eastern and above average in the central portion of the State. Sourwood is blooming in the mountains but reports indicate only a fair flow.



SOUTHEAST: (Period June 27-July 12).

Georgia. Most of June was dry and hot but good rains and cooler weather during early July improved conditions. Many colonies were low in stores but are again beginning to gain. Prospects are favorable for a good summer flow from pepperbush. Orders for package bees for 1945 delivery are already coming in, subject to later agreement on prices. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb., Extracted Mixed Flowers in case to ton lots 12¢; in small pails 17¢

Florida. Most of the State has been dry. Mangrove yielded only a quarter to half crop in most sections. Cabbage palmetto is beginning to bloom and in most sections prospects are fairly good for a flow from this source. Sales f.o.b. shipping point per lb., Extracted Mixed Flowers in case to ton lots and in barrels 11-12¢.

Alabama. Recent rains have helped to break the June drouth but additional rain is needed. Little or no honey has been extracted.

Tennessee. Dry, hot weather reduced the early honey flows in most of Tennessee and is now cutting short the flow from basswood and sourwood. A normal crop was secured from crimson clover in those sections where timely showers continued the flow. Plants of fall flowers are generally stunted and unless additional rain falls will yield lightly. Bitterweed is supplying enough nectar for broodrearing in some sections. Bees are generally in good condition.

Louisiana. In Southern Louisiana the summer flow is about over although vervain and pepperbush are still yielding pasturage and in some sections a little surplus. In this section the crop is expected to be about normal but far below last year's better than normal crop. Colony condition is good with a continuous build up. Requeening operations have been completed. In Northern Louisiana the early summer flow is ended and bees are making only enough honey for current needs and broodrearing. In this section about 75 percent of a normal honey crop was taken. Fall honey plants are stunted and unless rains soon come little fall honey will be gathered.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of July. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals reported. Supplies very light. Demand light, market dull. Few brokers' sales delivered to jobbers and large retailers - Holdovers.

EXTRACTED: IOWA, Sweetclover, Light Amber, 1-lb. jars \$3.17 per doz.

COMB: No supplies on market.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by rail, 1 car Calif.; by truck 2090 lbs.

COMB: Supplies very light. Demand light, market firm. ILLINOIS, cases 24-sections, White Clover, cellophane wrapped, very few sales, small lots \$8.00.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand light, market steady. ILLINOIS, cases 1 doz., 5-lb. glass jars White Clover \$10.18 per case.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 41½-43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: No receipts of honey. Demand fair, market steady at ceiling. Sales to retailers -

EXTRACTED: COLORADO and IDAHO, Alfalfa and White Sweetclover, glass, cases 12, 2-lb. \$5.45-5.65; 24, 1/2-lb. \$3.16-3.39; 24, 1-lb. \$6.00-6.15.

BEESWAX: Receipts approximately 600 lbs. Demand moderate, steady at ceiling.

MINNEAPOLIS: No arrivals. Practically no supplies on market. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75.

Expect new crop on market by first of August.

- continued -



NEW YORK: Arrivals: origin not specified 227,587 lbs. & 15 bbls.; 75,072 lbs. from Calif., 256 lbs. Fla. Imported supplies liberal. Demand very light, market dull and unsettled; domestic supplies light, mostly to bottlers. Very few sales made at ceilings but most buyers holding off.

EXTRACTED: Very few sales to jobbers and manufacturers. Imported sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling price as follows: per lb. Warehoused by dealer in U.S.A. 12000 or over  $1\frac{1}{2}\phi$ , less than 12,000 lbs. but not less than 1500 lbs.  $12\frac{1}{2}\phi$ ; less than 1500 but not less than 300 lbs.  $13\frac{1}{2}\phi$ ; less than 300 lbs.  $14\frac{1}{2}\phi$ .

BEE SWAX: 18 tons arrived. Supplies light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales by receivers port of entry - SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES, sun bleachable 44  $3/4\phi$ , non-sun bleachable  $41\frac{1}{2}\phi$ .

PHILADELPHIA: No arrivals reported. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: Extracted 7,180 lbs. bottled Midwestern. Practically no demand. No sales reported.

PORTLAND: No arrivals reported. Supplies light. Demand good, market firm. Sales to retailers and other large buyers -

EXTRACTED: Case lots, CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers 12, 3-lb. jars \$8.45; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.85; 24, 16-oz. jars \$6.27. CUBA, 60-lb. cans Light Amber 14  $3/4\phi$  per lb.

BEE SWAX: Supplies moderate. Limited amount continues to arrive with dealers paying ceiling.

ST. LOUIS: No receipts reported. Trading light, market dull. Sales by commission merchants and wholesalers to retailers -

EXTRACTED: COLORADO, Alfalfa, Light Amber, cartons 12, 2-lb. jars \$6.20; 1-lb. jars \$3.27; 1/2-lb. jars \$1.39.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND and ALAMEDA: Receipts from Central California by truck - 144 cases Extra Light Amber Alfalfa; 62 cases Light Amber Fruit Bloom; 266 cases White to Extra White Orange; 73 cases Light Amber Mixed Orange; 159 cases White to Extra White Sage; from Northern California - 50 cases Light Amber Carrot, 264 cases White Manzanita, 204 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers; from Southern California - 502 cases White to Extra White Orange.

BEE SWAX: Arrivals: 1449 lbs.





WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
Office of Distribution

Telephone - REpublic 4142,  
Extension 2176.

Washington 25, D. C.  
August 1, 1944.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII - No. 15

SUMMARY

There were 5,219,000 colonies of bees on hand July 1, 1944 compared with 4,887,000 colonies on hand July 1 a year earlier, according to the August 1 report of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. This represents an increase of about 7 percent. The increase was general throughout the country with the greatest increase in the South Atlantic and South Central areas. Of the total number of colonies on hand in early July 21 percent was from new swarms compared with 19 percent from new swarms on July 1, 1943. Winter and spring losses of colonies was about 14 percent compared with 21 percent a year earlier. The condition of colonies early in July was slightly better than on July 1, 1943 - 87 percent this year compared with 85 percent last year. Conditions of nectar plants on July 1 was reported at 76 percent of normal or about 8 points below July 1, 1943 condition. Detailed figures by States are found at the end of this report.

The late cool wet spring followed by very dry weather over much of the clover belt from the Plains Area to the Atlantic Seaboard has seriously reduced the clover honey crop. The crop in California has been reduced by an abnormally cool summer. Given favorable weather for the balance of the season average crops may be produced over much of the Intermountain Region, Pacific Northwest, Texas and in the Southeast.

Extracting is getting under way in most sections. Demand from shippers and packers has not been as heavy as last year, although it is fairly good. Many beekeepers intend to again pack their own crops and market them locally. Labor shortage is a limiting factor with many large beekeepers and some have had difficulty in obtaining containers. Honey continues to sell in all areas at ceiling regardless of flavor or color.

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

CALIFORNIA: (July 7-July 22)

Southern California - Weather during most of this period was cooler than normal which interfered somewhat with nectar secretion. However, a few hot days at the end of the period caused wild buckwheat to produce fairly well, especially at higher elevations. For the area as a whole the sage and buckwheat honey crops were light with the result that the total crop for the season may not average much more than a quarter to a third of normal. Sumac is beginning to yield. Some colonies are being moved to lima bean areas and also to the San Joaquin Valley for alfalfa and cotton. Extracting is general. Demand for honey has been good at the ceiling of \$14.40 per case of 120 lbs., f.o.b. country points, regardless of color or flavor. Supplies of beeswax were light with a good demand at the ceiling of 41½¢ cash or 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Imperial Valley - The honey flow from alfalfa and tamarisk has been normal, despite cooler than normal weather. Honey plants are now in normal condition.

Central and Northern California - Temperatures have generally been below normal except in the interior valleys. Honey plants are behind schedule because of so much cool weather. Bees in Central California are in fair shape but yields to date have been light in most districts. In northern California many bees are still being fed and some which have not been fed are in poor condition. In many sections star thistle is drying up and all indications point to a very light thistle crop. There has been an active f.o.b. demand for all types and flavors of honey at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb. in case to ton lots or more. Deliveries to the Bay Cities area consisted of Northern California Alfalfa-Ladino Clover, carrot, and Manzanita and central California Alfalfa-clover, Orange, Sage, Orange-sage, Eucalyptus, and Mixed Flowers. -over-



PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period July 7-July 22)

West of Cascades. The early summer flow ended during early July. Considerable clover and vetch honey has been extracted with yields reported from 40 to 65 pounds per colony. Fireweed is in full bloom in the lower elevations and beginning to bloom in the mountains. Plants are in good condition but in some sections the soil is very dry. Temperatures during a portion of this period have been unusually high. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- per lb. Extracted Clover - Vetch in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 15¢.

East of Cascades. While the weather has been hot and dry during most of this period a good flow has been on from 2nd crop alfalfa and sweetclover. Many colonies have stored a surplus of 50 to 65 pounds. It is expected the flow will not last much longer unless good rains fall.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period July 8 - July 24)

Production of honey decreased somewhat during this period in Colorado as the result of cool, rainy weather. In Wyoming and Montana production was somewhat heavier than earlier in the season. Portions of Wyoming and much of Montana may have a crop considerably better than average. West of the Rockies conditions were rather unfavorable in Idaho, although there is still time to produce a fair crop during August. In Nevada conditions were much improved as compared to the early part of the season and many colonies have shown fairly good surpluses. Extracting is getting under way in practically all States in this area. Some packers and shippers are active in efforts to contract next season's crop. Local retail demand for honey has been rather light. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. Extracted, Colorado, Alfalfa-Clover, in case to ton lots mostly 12¢, with some as high as 14¢. Details by States follow:

Colorado. East of the Continental Divide some rain during this period interfered with gathering of honey. However, in most sections of the State the crop now looks equal to that of last year, with some sections reporting a better crop. Early extracting is beginning. Some large buyers and shippers are looking for honey, but local retail demand has been rather light.

Wyoming. In most sections of the State considerable honey was gathered during this period. Even small swarms that were not expected to do much are filling supers. In some other sections the crop is still rather light. Swarming has been rather serious and in some sections considerable foulbrood has been reported.

Montana. Over most of Montana present indications point to a crop somewhat larger than that of last year. Scale hives in the valley sections of western Montana have shown gains of around five pounds per day. In this section the honey is extra white. Extracting will begin around August 1. In many yards bees are swarming badly. Large commercial apiaries are experiencing difficulty in obtaining sufficient labor.

Idaho. The crop gathered to date is much lighter than normal. In most sections alfalfa acreage is below average. In some sections white sweetclover is fairly plentiful and is just beginning to produce, while in other sections little sweetclover is available. Given favorable conditions during August there are still prospects of a fair crop.

Utah. In most sections of the State little honey was gathered during this period despite favorable weather conditions. Second crop alfalfa is beginning to bloom about two weeks later than usual, so there is still time to gather a fairly good crop. Many colonies continue to dwindle apparently from poisoning from smelter fumes.

Nevada. Despite a late spring and slow build-up colonies are in fairly good condition and in some sections have gathered a surplus of from 40 to 50 pounds from white and alsike clover. Prospects now appear favorable for a flow from second cutting alfalfa.

ARIZONA: (Period July 8 - July 24)

In southeast Arizona the honey flow is now over. The yield is estimated to be about 75 percent of last year's crop and not much more than 60 percent of a normal crop. In the Salt River Valley alfalfa is still producing and yields have been average or in some cases possibly a little better than average to date. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Alfalfa-Mesquite and Desert Flowers in case to ton lots 12¢; Mesquite in single 60s 13½¢, in small pails 20¢. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb. cash f.o.b. to beekeepers.

- continued -



SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period July 10-July 26)

East Texas. Weather was dry and hot during this period. Rain is needed for small honey plants. Bees are in normal condition. Cotton has yielded better than normal and little or no loss from poisoning has yet been reported.

Southeast Texas. The mesquite and cotton flows have just finished. An average of around 75 pounds of honey was made this season in the vicinity of Kingsville despite a late start of the honey flow.

Southwest Texas. The flow is practically over in this section except for some pasturage from various brush plants. Over the area as a whole the crop was somewhat lighter than normal, with a very light huajillo-catsclaw crop. Many orders for package bees for next season's delivery have already been booked. Recently the sale of an apiary of approximately 500 colonies of bees was made at \$5.00 per colony where this season's honey crop was removed and \$8.00 per colony where the honey was left in the hives. A number of large lot sales were reported during this period. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted Light Amber Catsclaw-Mesquite and Mesquite in small pails 15-19.3¢, mostly around 16½-17¢; in 2-lb. glass jars 19.8¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢; bulk comb honey in small glass jars 22¢ per lb.

West Texas. This period was unusually dry and hot although occasional showers kept mesquite producing some pasturage in scattered localities. Cotton is also producing in some areas. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Light Amber Huajillo-Mesquite-Catsclaw in small pails 15¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 23¢.

New Mexico. In the Mesilla Valley recent rains have generally improved plant conditions. Some yards are producing considerable surplus while others are just making a living. There has already been some extracting where seed crops of alfalfa have been produced. It is expected that in this area the crop will average only around 50 percent of normal.

Oklahoma. Showers over the State during this period improved prospects for a fall flow. Indications point to a honey crop below average.

Arkansas. Hot, dry weather has practically stopped the flow from all sources excepting buckwheat vine which is producing fairly well in some sections.

PLAINS AREA: (Period July 10- July 25)

Red River Valley of North Dakota and Minnesota. Weather conditions were more favorable than previously during this period, although there were still a number of days when bees could not work. Where sweetclover was plentiful a fairly good crop is being made with many good colonies running 75-100 pounds, and occasional outstanding colonies as high as 150 pounds. The general average to date, however, appears to be around 50-60 pounds of surplus honey. The sweetclover bloom is past its peak but should continue until around August 10. A little extracting has been reported but will not become general until around mid-August. Demand for honey on the part of packers and large shippers is lighter than at this time last season. Many beekeepers plan to again pack their own crop and sell locally as was done last season.

South Dakota. In the Black Hills the crop now appears to be about the same as last season or around 80 percent of normal. Extracting is just beginning. The honey is very light in color, with a medium heavy body.

Iowa. Cool, rainy weather during much of this period interfered with the gathering of honey, but has prolonged clover flows. Alfalfa is also producing. In some yards it looks like the crop will be average but for the State as a whole present prospects point to a crop somewhat below average. The late cold, wet spring and slow build-up were responsible for a very light early production of honey. Some honey is already being extracted. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Clover in small pails 18-19¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21-22¢.

Nebraska. Producing conditions continue fairly good over most of this State. Sufficient rain has fallen to prolong the sweetclover flow and considerable alfalfa is being left for seed. Some early extracting has been done, but no sales reported as yet.

Kansas. Present indications point to a crop somewhat below last year and also below normal largely because of the late spring build-up of bees and the cool, wet season. Sweetclover has stopped blooming except where pastured.

Missouri. Most sections of Missouri report a crop equal to that of last year or somewhat better, although in a few localities the production is still below normal. Some portions of the State are now very dry so that no current flows are available and prospects for a fall flow are not very promising.



EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period July 12 - July 29)

Michigan. On the upper peninsula clover has yielded extremely well during the past two weeks as a result of good heavy showers. Basswood has also yielded heavily. Many colonies now have five to six supers of honey with scale colonies running from five to eighteen pounds per day. Days have been hot with very cool nights. On the lower peninsula the white honey crop is extremely light. Many beekeepers will not have more than 25 percent of a normal crop and the average for the State will probably not exceed 50 percent of average. The clover flow is practically over. In some sections alfalfa is still producing a little. Recent rains in some sections have improved condition of fall plants, but rainfall is far below normal for this State. Some beekeepers believe that the crop over central and southern Michigan will be the lightest produced in a good many years. Extracting is gradually getting under way. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted, White Clover in small pails 19 1/3¢.

Wisconsin. The crop to date in Wisconsin is far below normal, with most optimistic reports indicating an average crop of around 40-50 pounds of Clover. Many yards will produce 25 pounds or less and some have produced no surplus at all. Unless a good fall flow develops it now looks like many beekeepers will have to feed to carry their bees through the winter. The quality of the honey so far extracted is very good. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted White Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15-16¢, in small pails 20-21¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 22-23¢, with some small lots as high as 26¢.

Minnesota. In most sections of the State the crop is running far below last year and below average. A wet early season interfered with the early clover flow and dry weather has now stopped the flow in most sections. The crop so far will average 50 pounds per colony or less. Buckwheat acreage in southern Minnesota is greater than normal and this together with heartsease and other fall flowers may provide some later honey. However, present indications point to a below average crop for the season.

Ohio. The weather has continued extremely dry over practically all of Ohio. Spring clover seedings are suffering and unless good rains come soon many clover stands will be killed. The clover crop is again very light although in many sections of the State it will likely exceed the extremely light crop of last year. Extracting is becoming general and the quality of the honey is mostly better than average, with a very light color and the heaviest body in years. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted, White Clover, in case to ton lots mostly 12¢, a few 11 1/2¢, a few higher; in single 60s 15¢. Section comb, Blackberry No. 1 grade \$5.50 per case of 24 sections; Clover and Blackberry ordinary quality \$4.00 per case; single sections are selling at around 32-35¢ each.

Indiana and Illinois. These States continue very dry although local showers have helped plants in some sections. The crop is very spotted with yields being reported all the way from 20 to 80 pound surplus per colony. The crop as a whole will, however, likely average below normal. The clover crop was cut short around the middle of July and present prospects are not promising for a fall crop. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted, Clover-Heartsease 1943 crop in case to ton lots 12¢; 1944 crop Clover in small pails 16-18¢. Section comb White Clover \$7.25-7.50 per case of 24 sections.

Kentucky. In north central Kentucky good rains on July 25 and 26 will benefit the fall flow for aster and goldenrod. The only source of food in this section at this time is pollen from corn. Western Kentucky continues very dry with nothing available until the Spanish needle flow which usually begins around mid-August or slightly later. The main clover flow in Kentucky, which is now past, produced well. No sales of honey were reported. Beeswax sold at 41 1/2¢ per lb. cash and 43 1/2¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period July 13-July 29)

New York. The honey crop to date in nearly all sections of the State is one of the shortest of record. Very few yards have reported more than 30 or 40 pound surplus from the Clover-Basswood crop and many yards have had almost a failure. For the State as a whole it appears the clover and basswood crop will not exceed 25 percent of normal although the quality is generally very good. In many sections prospects are fair for a fall crop. Many sections have a fairly heavy acreage of buckwheat, while in others the acreage is somewhat below normal.

- continued -



In some sections recent rains have put the buckwheat crop in fairly good condition. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Clover, in case to ton lots 12-12½¢, few high as 15¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 18-19¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢; Buckwheat in small pails 16 2/3¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 20¢. Section comb- White Clover, per case Fancy \$8.00; No. 1, \$7.00.

Vermont. Cool weather with occasional showers during this period has cut off the clover flow to a great extent. The honey crop to date in northern Vermont is below last year. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Clover in small pails 17¢.

New Jersey. The sumac and clover flows have ended due to very dry weather. All crops were suffering for lack of rain at the end of this period. Sumac yielded exceptionally well during this year.

Pennsylvania. The clover and basswood flows are largely over in Pennsylvania. In some sections the crop was only fair, while in others it is considerably larger than last season. Much of the surplus gathered in central and northern Pennsylvania was basswood of unusually good quality. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, in case to ton lots 12¢; Mixed Flowers in single 60s 15¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb. cash f.o.b. to beekeepers.

#### SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period July 13-July 29)

Maryland. The basswood flow is now over in western Maryland and bees in all sections of the State are rather inactive because of a lack of nectar plants at this season. The severe drought conditions which prevailed early in the season have been relieved. The white honey crop is now being extracted, and in most yards is running about average in size. In western Maryland the buckwheat flow will start in early August.

West Virginia. Over much of West Virginia bees did very well on the early summer flows, with many yards averaging 100 pounds per colony surplus. At present prospects are good for fall honey plants, with favorable moisture conditions and a good stand of asters. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - bulk comb Clover-Sumac, in small containers 25¢.

South Carolina. Sourwood has produced very well in the mountains. The flow is practically over except at higher altitudes and a normal crop will be produced. Bees are working on cowpeas and cotton, but seldom is any surplus gathered from either of these.

Tennessee. The continued drought and very high temperatures has cut off any supply of nectar that might be obtained from the few flowers that bloom in mid-summer. Some honeydew is being collected in the early mornings but it is hardly enough to stimulate broodrearing. Unless sufficient rainfall occurs soon, the wild flora will be badly damaged and the fall honey crop may not be sufficient for successful wintering. Local rain has helped in some places but the general condition of crops and wild honey plants is serious. Due to poor broodrearing conditions, European foulbrood is destroying colonies of black and hybrid bees in some areas.

#### SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period July 13-July 29)

Georgia. In south Georgia colonies are normal or better than normal. Honey plants are about normal for this season. Bees are storing a little more than their daily requirements, but no large additional surplus is in prospect before fall. The early honey crop in this section was somewhat better than last year and in most areas about average. Considerable swarming has occurred largely due to difficulty in removing the early surplus as a result of labor shortages. Demand for honey is somewhat lighter than a month ago. Apparently an abundance of other lower-priced sweets on many markets is cutting in to the demand for honey. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.- Gallberry extracted, in small pails 20-22¢; bulk comb in small pails one very large lot 18¢ per lb.

Florida. The summer flow has largely ended as a result of hot weather. However, good rains are maintaining fall honey plants in good condition. Reports as to the total crop so far vary greatly according to sections, but for much of the State it looks like the surplus already made is somewhat heavier than that produced to this season last year. Demand for honey has been fair with a heavier demand for white honey than for darker grades. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.- Amber Mixed Flowers in drums 11½-12¢. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.



Alabama. Showers have maintained some of the plants in fair condition and bees are obtaining pasturage and a very little surplus. In the Castleberry section the crop is very short.

Louisiana. In southern Louisiana continued hot weather together with light showers has helped the summer flow from blue vervaine, peppervine and loosestrife. Colonies are gaining a pound or two a day. As a result of this a fairly large summer crop of honey should be made. The quality of much of this honey is not especially good as some of the honey is bubbly in the combs and combs are blistered. Late corn is providing pollen and partridge pea will soon be in bloom to furnish additional pollen. Fall plants look promising at this time. Package bee orders for 1945 continue to be booked. There has been a better than normal demand for queens during this period and indications point to a good fall demand when requeening in the honey producing States gets under way.

#### TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of July. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals reported. Demand light, market dull. Few brokers' sales delivered to jobbers and large retailers -

EXTRACTED: IOWA, Sweetclover, Light Amber 1-lb. jars \$3.17 per doz.

COMB: No supplies on market.

CHICAGO: No receipts reported. Practically no supplies in hands of honey receivers and wholesale dealers. No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers' paying for occasional lot country run stock 43½-45¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: Receipts: Colo., comb 50 cases, extracted old 9000 lbs., new crop 7500 lb:

EXTRACTED: Demand fairly good, market steady at ceiling. Sales to retailers- COLORADO, Alfalfa and White Sweetclover, White to Water White, glass-cases 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.45-5.65, 12, 2½-lb. jars \$6.90, 24, 8-oz. \$3.16-3.39; 24, 1-lb. jars \$6.00-6.15.

COMB: Demand good, market firm. Sales to retailers - COLORADO, cases 24, 12-oz. cellophane-wrapped, Extra Fancy \$7.50-8.00.

BEESWAX: No receipts reported. Dealers' offerings ceilings 41½¢.

KANSAS CITY: Truck receipts light. Local and Iowa, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales direct to retailers - LOCAL and IOWA, White Clover cases 2-doz. 1-lb. glass jars \$5.75, 1-doz. 2-lb. glass \$5.65, 1-doz. 5-lb. glass \$11.50. Sales to manufacturers- 60-lb. tins 15-16¢.

MINNEAPOLIS: No arrivals. Practically no supplies on the market. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75.

NEW YORK: Arrivals, Origin not specified 4 cars, Ga. 1200 lbs., Va. 9 cartons in glass, Origin not specified 540 bbls. Supplies moderate. Demand slow, market rather unsettled. Very few sales made at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Very few sales to jobbers and manufacturers- CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers 16½¢. IMPORTED, sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling price as follows: Per lb. warehoused by dealer in U.S.A. - 12,000 or over 11½¢, less than 1200 lbs. but not less than 1500 lbs. 12½¢, less than 1500 but not less than 300 lbs. 13½¢, less than 300 lbs. 14½¢.

BEESWAX: Origin not specified 104 bags. Supplies light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales by receivers port of entry - SOUTH AMERICA AND WEST INDIES, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sunbleachable 41½¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Honey and beeswax, no arrivals reported. No prices available.



PITTSBURGH: Arrivals 3000 lbs. bottled Midwestern, 3000 lbs. Origin not specified. Demand very slow, market dull. Sales by receivers to retailers -

EXTRACTED: IOWA, White Clover cartons of 24, 1-lb. jars \$5.50.

ST LOUIS: Receipts very light. Trading light. Market firm. Sales by commission merchants and wholesalers to retailers-

EXTRACTED: COLORADO, Alfalfa, Light Amber cartons 12, 2-lb. jars \$6.20; 1-lb. jars \$3.27; 1/2-lb. jars \$1.89. ILLINOIS, 1-lb. glass jars 20¢, 3-lb. jars 60¢.

PORTLAND: Arrivals 1 car new crop from Calif. Light Amber Mixed Flowers containing 60-lb. tins and cases of 5-lb. jars. The demand for honey has been slow due to fairly liberal supply of imported stocks in hands of retailers. Jobbers stocks are light, market is unchanged with few sales reported at ceiling prices. Sales to retailers and other large buyers-

EXTRACTED: In case lots - CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers Light Amber new crop 12, 5-lb. glass jars \$12.52, old crop 12, 3-lb. jars \$8.45, 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.85, 24, 16-oz. jars \$6.27.

BEESEWAX: Supplies moderate. Limited amount continues to arrive with dealers paying ceiling of 41½¢ per lb.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND AND ALAMEDA: Receipts from Central California via truck: 100 cases Light to Extra Light Amber Alfalfa-Clover, 560 cases White to Water White Orange, 296 cases White to Extra White Sage, 65 cases White Orange-Sage, 205 cases Amber to Light Amber Mixed Flowers, 29 cases Light Amber Eucalyptus; beeswax 1228 lbs.; Receipts from Northern California: 104 cases Light to Extra Light Amber-Ladino Clover, 76 cases Light Amber Carrot, 194 cases Light to Extra Light Amber Manzanita. Receipts from Southern California: 106 cases White Orange, 65 cases Extra Light Amber to White Sage.

SEATTLE: Receipts 785 cases Calif. Supplies limited. Most jobbers have no stocks on hand. Market at ceiling. For few sales reported-

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case-lots - WASHINGTON, creamed honey 18, 2½-lb. cups \$13.00; 24, 14-oz. cups \$6.24; 30, 14-oz. cups \$8.05. CALIFORNIA, old crop Light Amber Mixed Flowers 24, 1-lb. jars \$6.20; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.80; 12, 3-lb. jars \$8.40; 60-lb. cans \$11.50; new crop Orange 6, 5-lb. jars \$6.47, 60-lb. cans \$11.19.

COLONIES OF BEES AND CONDITION OF COLONIES AND NECTAR PLANTS ON JULY 1  
by Bureau of Agricultural Economics, August 1, 1944

State and Division	Colonies of Bees				Colonies: New Condition: Condition				Condition of nectar	
	: 1944 as:				: winter & colonies:				: colonies:	
	: 1/1941:	: 1/1942:	: 1/1943:	: a % of 2/1944:	: spring of 1944:	: spring of 1944:	: 1943-44:	: 1943:	: 1944:	: 1943:
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Pct.	Thous.	Pct.	Pct.	Percent of Normal		
Me.	5	6	6	117	7	13	28	81	89	91
N.H.	3	3	3	100	3	27	31	78	90	95
Vt.	7	8	8	100	8	12	8	76	88	97
Mass.	14	17	17	106	18	16	24	83	86	87
R.I.	1	1	1	100	1	8	12	81	90	74
Conn.	17	20	18	111	20	7	26	75	96	85
N.Y.	183	203	199	105	209	11	16	83	90	92
N.J.	25	27	26	104	27	11	14	86	92	90
Pa.	170	190	184	104	191	13	19	87	94	88
N.Atl.	425	475	462	105	484	12	18	84	92	91
Ohio	275	310	298	104	310	11	17	86	90	87
Ind.	144	159	154	103	159	13	17	83	88	90
Ill.	205	225	191	100	191	17	19	80	88	79
Mich.	160	176	172	115	198	15	28	78	88	94
Wis.	160	183	187	107	200	13	20	81	87	92
E.N.Cent.	944	1,053	1,002	106	1,053	14	20	82	88	89
Minn.	210	240	252	106	267	23	33	85	86	91
Iowa	167	200	200	104	208	19	33	81	85	86
Mo.	136	160	160	98	157	21	20	86	83	93
N.Dak.	21	24	21	105	22	35	62	85	85	78
S.Dak.	14	17	18	100	18	25	50	88	84	92
Nebr.	37	46	49	104	51	26	30	84	82	78
Kans.	31	40	44	100	44	15	14	86	79	91
W.N.Cent.	616	727	744	103	767	22	30	84	84	88
Del.	3	4	3	100	3	16	29	82	89	88
Md.	23	24	24	100	24	14	21	86	90	81
Va.	116	128	119	117	139	13	26	83	86	74
W.Va.	95	104	95	120	114	20	32	83	89	72
N.C.	164	183	165	107	177	9	15	80	89	71
S.C.	50	55	52	115	60	16	26	82	85	75
Ga.	160	173	173	115	199	12	20	82	87	72
Fla.	146	150	162	110	178	9	16	88	85	76
S.Atl.	757	821	793	113	894	12	21	83	87	74
Ky.	140	147	153	110	168	16	25	87	88	81
Tenn.	150	158	155	110	170	16	27	85	86	73
Ala.	116	128	134	125	168	11	31	89	90	81
Miss.	53	56	60	110	66	7	12	95	86	88
Ark.	75	75	70	101	71	19	27	87	84	78
La.	52	56	62	110	68	7	16	91	86	90
Okla.	37	40	43	109	47	16	25	86	88	81
Tex.	200	196	204	104	212	9	11	93	89	83
S.Cent.	823	856	881	110	970	13	22	89	88	81
Mont.	33	37	39	113	44	13	22	83	88	83
Idaho	128	124	135	104	140	18	20	86	85	85
Wyo.	30	31	35	106	37	19	23	87	84	88
Colo.	64	66	69	103	71	15	16	90	89	80
N.Mex.	15	15	17	112	19	11	17	84	87	81
Ariz.	68	75	79	97	77	16	18	89	91	68
Utah	51	47	52	100	52	28	25	86	80	77
Nev.	13	13	14	100	14	13	25	83	85	44
Wash.	64	64	60	105	63	14	22	89	88	97
Oreg.	51	54	57	104	59	22	26	88	89	90
Calif.	395	435	448	105	470	9	13	88	82	84
West.	912	961	1,005	104	1,046	14	17	88	85	81
U.S.	4,477	4,893	4,887	107	5,219	14	21	85	87	84

1/ Revised.

2/ Preliminary.



WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
Office of Distribution

Reserve

Telephone - REpublic 4142,  
Extension 2176.

Washington 25, D. C.  
August 15, 1944.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII - No. 16

SUMMARY

It is becoming increasingly evident that this year's honey crop will again be below average. Dry weather has seriously reduced the clover flow over much of the northern area from the New England States to the Mississippi River. Conditions are especially poor in the Ohio Valley and portions of the North Central area. Over the Plains Area conditions are somewhat better with some sections predicting a crop of close to normal proportions, while other large sections will show a total production below average. Portions of the Inter-mountain area will have very good crops, while other sections report below average yields. The total crop in California will be much below normal; in the Pacific Northwest the clover and vetch crop was fair; and in eastern Oregon and Washington the clover-alfalfa crop is running around normal in most sections. In the fireweed sections of Oregon and Washington a short crop is predicted, due to excessively dry weather. Crop conditions through the southeast and portions of the southwest have been fairly good. With the continued dry weather over much of the northeast and north central States prospects for a fall flow are now poor. In many areas young clover seedings have suffered with the result that clover acreage next year may be small. Bees in all sections are in generally good condition.

Extracting is beginning in all northern areas. The quality of the honey crop in the Clover Belt is unusually good, being of heavy body and very light color except in New York where much of the honey is rather dark. Demand for honey both locally and on the part of large packers and buyers is somewhat lighter than at this time last season. However, many orders are being placed for car-load lots where available. Considerable dark strong honey is still to be found in the hands of wholesalers and retailers which is limiting the demand for better grades of honey. Prices for honey continue at ceiling levels for practically all grades and flavors except for some dark southern honey which is selling slightly below the ceiling. Offerings of beeswax are very light and prices continue at ceiling.

Shortage of labor is slowing down beekeeping and extracting operations in many sections especially among large commercial beekeepers. In most sections the container situation appears to be quite satisfactory although there is a shortage of small tins and in some local areas the supply of glass containers may be temporarily short. Sales of small containers in many sections has been quite heavy, with the sale of 60-lb. cans lighter than normal which would indicate that many beekeepers plan to pack and sell their honey locally in small containers in much the same manner as they did last season.

Amendment 42 to Revised Rationing Order No. 3, effective August 16, delegates the authorization of the extra 15 pounds of sugar permitted under the Rationing Food Order for the feeding of bees in case of necessity to the County AAA Committee rather than to the County USDA War Board, as has been the case in the past.

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period July 24 - Aug. 8)

Southern California. Temperatures have been normal over most of Southern California during this period, with ideal nectar-producing conditions. Little honey was added to the surplus during this period, however, due to the fact that the main honey-producing plants have practically finished yielding. Lima beans and toyon are producing; asparagus is furnishing a little nectar in some sections;

-over-



and various ornamentals and scattered wild flowers are furnishing some pasturage. The sage and buckwheat crops averaged below normal and prospects for this section as a whole are for a short total honey crop this season. Brush fires have burned over considerable bee pasturage, and in one section dusting of a large tract of asparagus with lead arsenic caused a heavy loss of bees. Demand for honey was somewhat lighter than during previous weeks, especially from eastern buyers. Prices, however, held firm at the ceiling of \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds f.o.b. country points, regardless of color or flavor. Demand continued good for beeswax at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash and 43½¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Imperial Valley. Normal hot, dry weather prevailed. Bees have been gathering fairly good surpluses of alfalfa. Tamarisk bloomed about two weeks late and little tamarisk honey was produced.

Central California. Nectar is being gathered from alfalfa, lima bean, cotton, spikeweed, Jack clover, and other minor weeds. Temperatures have been favorable except on the coast where there has been considerable fog and low temperatures. The crop gathered so far is far below average, with estimates running from almost a failure to around 60 percent of normal. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted in case to ton lots, Alfalfa-Orange, Buckwheat, White Clover-Orange, Orange-Sage, Mixed Flowers, Sage, and Sage-Buckwheat-Lima Bean 12¢ per lb.

Northern California. Bees are in generally good condition over Northern California and are gathering some surplus from star thistle, sweet-clover, Ladino clover, morning glory, and lima beans. Yields to date have been light and relatively little honey has been extracted. Present indications point to a light thistle crop which is one of the principal sources of honey in this section. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted- Carrot, Manzanita, Snow brush, Cherry, Alfalfa, and Mixed Flowers, in case to ton lots 12¢.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period July 24 - Aug. 8)

West of Cascades. In the fireweed sections much of this period was cool and cloudy. Also the ground was so dry the fireweed flow has been very light. In the lower elevations fireweed has practically finished blooming while in the higher elevations it is just about in full bloom. Extracting of clover and vetch honey has been active with yields in the Willamette Valley running 50-60 pounds per colony and some beekeepers in western Washington reporting yields of 60 to 100 pounds per colony. Colonies are in generally good condition except where they were injured last spring by spray poisoning. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.- Clover-Vetch and Mixed Flowers in case to ton lots mostly around 12¢, with some sales reported as high as 14¢; in single 60s to consumers mostly 15¢ per lb. Comb- Vetch and Clover few sales \$7.00 per case.

East of Cascades. Second crop alfalfa and sweetclover have about completed blooming. In some seasons third crop alfalfa provides a fair late flow. Yields of honey are extremely variable with reports generally running from 50 to 100 pounds per colony, although in a few very favorable locations where bees were not injured by poisoning up to 300 pounds per colony have been reported. In the Yakima Valley many bees have been lost from spray poisoning and also from dusting vegetable crops. Little honey has been extracted to date. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted Clover-Alfalfa in case to ton lots mostly 12¢, in single 60s 15¢; Section Comb: Clover-Alfalfa \$7.00 per case.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period July 24-August 8)

Honey gathering conditions have been quite favorable over most of this area during the past period. Sections of Colorado and Montana report a better than average crop, while in other portions of the area indications point to a crop of about normal proportions or in some places below normal. The quality of the honey in Colorado, Montana and Idaho is reported to be better than average. Local demand for honey is somewhat lighter than last year. Demand from eastern buyers and packers has been good but is below that of last season. Extracting is getting under way in all sections. Shortage of help is delaying extracting, especially among large commercial operators. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Clover-Alfalfa, in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s to consumers 15¢, in small pails 18-19¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb. cash f.o.b. to beekeepers. Details by States follow:

- continued -



Colorado. Crop conditions are variable in various sections of Colorado and also spotted within limited areas. In western Colorado the crop is generally very good with one beekeeper reporting the heaviest crop in 14 years. Over most of eastern Colorado the crop is probably average or a little better, while some localities report a crop somewhat below normal. The weather has been unseasonably hot and dry, with very low humidity. Irrigation water has, however, been plentiful and crops have been maintained in good condition in the irrigated sections.

Montana. The honey flow is rapidly tapering off in most sections of Montana. Most beekeepers in favorable locations report fairly good yields with one large commercial beekeeper reporting an average of 175 pounds per colony. Bees are in unusually good condition. Young clover plants are plentiful and thrifty. The quality of the honey crop this year is extremely good, being of heavy body and very light in color.

Idaho. Present indications point to a below average crop in most sections of Idaho, although in some localities both yellow and white sweetclover have been more plentiful than usual with the result that in these sections a fairly good crop has been made. Some early extracting is getting under way. Quality and color of the crop are better than average. Cold nights and cloudy afternoons have provided very short working days for the bees at higher elevations.

Utah. In some sections of Utah a very good crop is being produced, while in others the crop will be far below normal - in some cases almost a failure. The results from package bees has been extremely variable. Many two pound packages installed last spring have already produced 50-75 pounds of surplus honey, while other package colonies have dwindled away and died.

Nevada. A fairly good flow is now on from second crop alfalfa. Conditions are variable over the State with some sections producing a crop considerably above average while in other sections the crop will be below normal.

ARIZONA: (Period July 24-Aug. 8)

During this period the honey flow was very light in practically all sections. The season to date has been favorable in the Salt River Valley. One large operator reports the best season he has ever had in areas where there has been no cotton. Alfalfa fields have bloomed much longer than usual due to the difficulty in obtaining sufficient haying help at the proper time. Some colonies have made as much as 200 - 250 pounds per colony in favorable localities. In the desert areas yields have been average or below average. Swarming has been heavy in the Salt River Valley this summer. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - Alfalfa, in carlots 12¢; Alfalfa-Mesquite in carlots and in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢, in small pails 18¢.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period July 27 - Aug. 10)

Northeast and East Texas. The weather continued hot and dry during this period. Cotton has yielded a normal or slightly better than normal crop while other plants during this period have yielded below normal. To date very little cotton has been dusted and no bee losses from this cause have been reported. Many orders for package bees and queens for 1945 delivery are being placed. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - Light Amber Clover, in single 60s 15¢, in glass jars 21-22¢. Beeswax, 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Southeast Texas. In the vicinity of Bay City the soil is drier than it has been for many years. Despite the drought bees are accumulating stores in excess of daily needs and some colonies have a surplus of 40 pounds or more. Pollen has been scarce, with the result that some colonies are weak and queens are laying very little. Fires have caused much damage to both cattle and bee ranges.

Southwest Texas. This period has been very dry and very little nectar has been available. Most colonies are gathering only enough for their daily needs. Extracting has been fairly well completed, with yields reported at from 25 to 50 pounds per colony in most places, with an occasional colony producing somewhat more. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - Mixed Flowers in small pails 17¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢; Mesquite in case to ton lots 12¢.

New Mexico. In the Mesilla Valley bees have produced very little during this period, because of the intense heat. Sales f.o.b. shipping point: extracted- Dark Alfalfa and Mixed Flowers in small pails 19 1/3¢ per lb.



Arkansas. Good rains over much of the State during this period have improved prospects for a fall crop. Bees are now obtaining little more than pasturage from miscellaneous summer weeks. The only honey sales reported during this period were of some dark, strong Smartweed honey in barrels at 10¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers.

PLAINS AREA: (Period July 27 - Aug. 10)

Red River Valley of North Dakota and Minnesota. Rainfall has been ample to maintain plants in fairly good condition during this period. However, the sweetclover flow is practically over and bees are now making little more than a living from fall flowers. Robbing has been prevalent. Extracting is getting under way in many yards. Present indications point to an average of around 125 pounds per colony for well operated apiaries in favorable localities, with a 50-60 pound average for poorer locations. Quality is exceptionally good the honey being of heavy body and extra light in color. Present indications are that a large proportion of the local crop will be packed and sold locally by the producer in small containers. Clover seedings for next year are making a good start with the acreage estimated around 15 percent above the acreage this year. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - White Clover extracted in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 19-22¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 24¢.

Iowa. Occasional rains and moderate weather have prolonged the honey flow in most sections of Iowa, although production during the past period has been light. White Sweetclover, alfalfa and white Dutch clover seem to be the principal sources at this time. Fall flowers are beginning to produce in a limited way. Extracting is starting in many yards. It now looks like the crop will average a little better than last year but will be somewhat below normal. The average among better yards will likely not exceed 50 or 60 pounds, while many colonies will produce little more than their winter needs. Many package colonies have built up very poorly and considerable requeening will be necessary to put bees in good condition for winter. Sales f.o.b. shipping point- per lb., extracted, Clover in small pails 18-20¢, in 1-lb. jars 22-23¢.

Nebraska. Very little nectar is available at this time, although moisture is ample. Some late crop alfalfa may produce some late honey and fall prospects are fairly favorable.

Kansas. This period was extremely hot with little or no rain in most sections. The main flow from sweetclover is practically over but alfalfa is still producing lightly in some sections. Present indications point to a crop about average or possibly a little better than average with yields of 50 to 100 pounds per colony with an average of around 60-65 pounds among better commercial beekeepers.

Missouri. A fairly good gain was made during the past two weeks. Prospects for a fall flow from Spanish needle are rather poor since this plant was drowned out in many low areas by last spring's floods. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Clover and Mixed Flowers, in case to ton lots 12¢.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period July 27 - Aug. 12)

Michigan. On the upper peninsula a larger than normal crop is being produced. This is largely white clover honey of a very high quality. One large beekeeper reports that his scale hive has produced better than 250 pounds. Sufficient rain has fallen to maintain good plant conditions. On the lower peninsula conditions during the past two three period have been very unfavorable. A severe drought exists in many large areas and indications are that this year's crop on the lower peninsula will be considerably below the short crop of last year and possibly not more than 25-40 percent of normal. Many colonies have not yet produced sufficient honey for winter stores. Many supers of drawn comb have not been taken out of storage and used, which is a very unusual situation for this section. Buckwheat growth has been poor and unless good rains fall within the near future it is expected that little buckwheat honey will be gathered. Sales of glass jars have been fairly large but very few 60-pound cans have been sold, indicating that much of the crop will be packed locally this year. Some extracting has been done on both the upper and lower peninsulas, but no sales were reported during the past period.



Wisconsin. Dry weather in most sections has stopped any large nectar flow. Many colonies are barely making a living. Present prospects point to a crop of only 25-50 percent of normal, with possible yields of 25-50 pounds per colony. Extracting is getting under way. Demand for honey is not as heavy as last year, although some packers and buyers are in the market for carlots. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., White Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 18-20¢, with a few direct to consumers at 22¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢.

Minnesota. Over much of Minnesota honey yields so far have been rather disappointing. Much of the southern portion of the State has been unusually dry. Plant conditions have averaged somewhat better in northern Minnesota, but wet weather has prevented bees from working a portion of the time. Some better yards in favorable locations are reporting yields to date of from 75 to 100 pounds, although the average for the State as a whole is considerably below this. In southern Minnesota considerable buckwheat acreage will be producing within the next week or two provided weather conditions are favorable. Planting of buckwheat extended over about a three-week period so some buckwheat should be available until frost. In most sections fall plants are in fair condition but in southern Minnesota continued drought may seriously affect the fall flow. Extracting is getting under way. Present indications are that much of the crop will move locally as was the case last year. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - per lb., White Clover, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 18-21¢.

Ohio. Hot, dry weather prevailed over most of Ohio during this period. In most sections bees are barely making a living. Goldenrod is beginning to bloom in southern Ohio and in northeastern Ohio buckwheat is beginning to yield in a limited way although the buckwheat acreage is light. It now looks like the average crop of light honey will run around 30 pounds per colony, with yields somewhat better in the southern part of the State and lighter in the northern part. In northern Ohio many colonies have not yet made winter stores. Quality of the honey is better than average, being of a light color and heavy body. Fall plants are generally in fair condition but if the drought continues prospects are poor for much of a flow from goldenrod, Spanish needle and aster. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - Per lb., extracted, White Clover, in ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 20¢. Comb White Clover No. 1, \$6.00 per case, with single sections direct to consumers by beekeepers at 32-35¢.

Indiana. Most sections of Indiana report the worst drought in years. Little honey is being gathered at present. Such extracting as has been completed indicates yields of Clover honey at from 40 to 60 pounds per colony. Prospects at present are poor for a fall honey flow. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - per lb., White Clover, in small pails directly to consumers 22¢.

Illinois. Bees in most sections of Illinois are barely making a living at this time because of serious drought conditions which have stopped most nectar sources. Plants are in very poor conditions especially young seedlings of clover and prospects are very poor for a fall flow unless unusually heavy rains come within the near future. Yields of around 40 to 60 pounds of clover honey have been reported from some of the better yards in favorable sections, but many other yards have as yet not produced sufficient honey for winter stores. Local demand for honey has been very good. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - per lb., extracted: White Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 15¢; in small pails (Light Amber) 16¢; Clover-Heartsease 1943 crop in case to ton lots 12¢. Comb- White Clover \$6.00-6.25 per case without cases; 1-lb. sections 30¢ each. direct to consumers.

Kentucky. Practically all of Kentucky continues hot and dry with drying winds, although southwestern Kentucky has reported some local showers. Prospects are poor for a fall flow. There is now nothing for bees to work on. Sales f.o.b. shipping points - Section comb, small lots 30¢ per lb.; bulk comb 25¢ per lb.

#### NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period July 29-August 13)

New York. The clover flow in New York State has been the poorest in a number of years, with many large commercial beekeepers reporting a surplus of 10-30 pounds per colony. The weather has been extremely hot and dry. Buckwheat is beginning to bloom, but has so far yielded only lightly in most sections. Goldenrod is coming on about two weeks earlier than usual. The clover honey is considerably darker than usual and some of it has a strong flavor. While considerable honey has been extracted very few sales were reported during this period. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - per lb., extracted - Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 19-20¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 19-22¢.



section comb honey White Clover Fancy \$8.00 per case; No. 1, \$7.00. Beeswax, 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Vermont. Weather continues dry with very little honey now coming in. The honey flow is over and supers are being removed. It is estimated that the crop will be from 25 to 35 percent below that of last year. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - per lb., extracted - White Clover, in small pails 17¢.

Connecticut. This sections is badly in need of rain and unless rain comes soon the fall flow will be light. Young clover plants are being killed out. The flow from clethra "pepper bush" is now on and some surplus is being gathered. Being a swamp plant clethra has not suffered from the dry weather.

New Jersey. This area is extremely hot and dry which will no doubt curtail production from fall plants. Bees are now largely living off honey previously stored.

#### SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period July 29 - Aug. 13)

Maryland. In western Maryland buckwheat is in full bloom but little honey is being obtained because of this extreme hot, dry weather. In eastern Maryland bees are barely making a living from weeds and miscellaneous plants. Goldenrod is just coming into full bloom.

West Virginia. Bees are generally inactive due to the severe drought which is affecting growth of aster and other fall plants. Unless conditions improve greatly a very light fall flow is expected.

Virginia. In the Tidewater section the spring honey crop was better than average. Fall flowers are beginning to bloom and present prospects in this section are very favorable for a fall flow, with bees in generally good condition. Extracting of the spring honey crop is about completed.

#### SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period July 27 - Aug. 12)

Florida. Over most of the State bees are obtaining little honey at this time. Some sections are extremely dry while others are receiving almost daily showers. In some sections bees are obtaining some honey from cabbage palmetto and in north Florida are making a fairly good living from purslane. Some of the stronger colonies in north Florida are sealing honey but little or no surplus is expected from purslane. Demand for dark honey has been extremely light. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - per lb., 1 large lot of Amber Palmetto and Mixed Flowers in barrels 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Amber Mixed Flowers in small pails 16 2/3¢. Beeswax, 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb., cash f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Alabama. In southern Alabama considerable rain fell during this period and bees have stored honey rapidly. Prospects are good for a fall flow. In north central Alabama the honey crop is short and fall honey plants are considerably retarded by dry weather.

Louisiana. In southern Louisiana only slight gains were made by colonies during this period. Heavy rains have fallen which probably caused a near cessation of the flow. Vervain, peppervine, and loosestrife are still in bloom but are maturing which will result in a slowly diminishing flow. Partridge pea is providing pollen. Fall plants are now in generally good condition and most colonies are fairly strong. Demand for queens has been moderate while the demand for package bees for 1945 delivery has been heavy. Some White Clover and Mixed Flower honey sold in large lots at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb. f.o.b.

#### TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of August. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: Arrivals: 1 car of 1045 cases extracted Iowa. Demand slow, market dull. Few sales, mostly on f.o.b. basis. Very few Brokers' sales delivered to jobbers and large retailers -

EXTRACTED: IOWA; Sweetclover, Light Amber, 1-lb. jars \$3.17 per dozen.

COMB: No supplies on market.

- continued -



CHICAGO: Receipts: by rail, 1 car Calif.; by truck 1800 lbs. Ill., 8040 lbs. Origin not specified.

COMB: Supplies very light. Demand good, market firm. Sales to retailers- ILLINOIS, 1/2 cases 12-sections, White Clover, cellophane-wrapped, very few sales, small lots \$4.25.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand good, market firm. Sales to bakers and other large users - ILLINOIS, 1 dozen 5-lb. glass jars White Clover \$10.18 per case; 24, 1-lb. glass jars White Clover \$7.50 per case. MEXICO, 60-lb. tins Mixed Flowers 14¢ per lb.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-46¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: Receipts: extracted, approximately 72,000 lbs. Colo., comb, 125 cases Colo.; beeswax 300 lbs. All quotations comb and extracted are sales to retailers -

EXTRACTED: Demand moderate, market steady. COLORADO, Alfalfa and White Sweetclover, White to Water White, glass, 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.45-5.65; 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. jars \$6.90; 24, 8-oz. \$3.15-3.39; 24, one-lb. jars \$6.00-6.15.

COMB: Demand good, market firm. 24-frames cellophane-wrapped 12-oz. Extra Fancy \$7.50-8.00. Distributors report quality both comb and extracted better than last season.

BEESWAX: Demand fair, market steady at ceiling. Dealers offering 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. for domestic crude.

KANSAS CITY: Arrivals: 1 car Calif., approx. 1 car Iowa by truck. Local truck receipts moderate. Market about steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales to manufacturers - CALIFORNIA, 60-lb. tins, Alfalfa Light Amber 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. IOWA and LOCAL, White Clover 15¢. Sales to retailers - IOWA and LOCA, White Clover, White and Light Amber, cases, 2 doz., 1-lb. glass jars \$5.75-6.25; 1 doz., 2-lb. glass \$5.65-6.00; 1 doz., 5-lb. glass \$11.50-12.50.

MINNEAPOLIS: No arrivals. Supplies old crop cleaned up. No new crop supplies on market.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by boat origin not specified 465 bbls. Supplies imported liberal, domestic practically nothing on market. Demand slow, market dull and unsettled.

EXTRACTED: Very few sales to jobbers and manufacturers - IMPORTED, sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling price as follows: per lb. warehoused by dealer in U.S.A.: 12,000 or over 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, less than 12,000 but not less than 1500 lbs. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, less than 1500 but not less than 300, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, less than 300 lbs. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, occasional offerings made below ceiling but no price reported.

BEESWAX: Boat:origin not specified 232 tons, 15 sacks. Supplies light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales by receivers port of entry- SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢; non-sun-bleachable 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts very light. Trading light, market firm. Sales by commission merchants and wholesalers to retailers -

EXTRACTED: COLORADO, Alfalfa, Light Amber, cartons 12, 2-lb. jars \$6.20; 1-lb. jars \$3.27; 1/2-lb. jars \$1.89. ILLINOIS, 1-lb. glass jars 20¢; 3-lb. jars 60¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by truck, 15,500 lbs. N.J. Demand slow, market dull.

EXTRACTED: Sales by wholesale receivers to distributors - NEW JERSEY, Lima Bean, 60-lb. cans 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

BEESWAX: No arrivals. No offerings.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: extracted 1400 lbs. Iowa, 2280 lbs. bottled mid-western. Demand slow, market dull. Sales by receivers to retailers -

EXTRACTED: IOWA, White Clover cartons of 24, 1-lb. jars \$5.50.

PORTLAND: Arrivals: by motor truck, new crop, from Oregon 60, 60-lb. cans Clover-Vetch; old crop from Idaho, 20, 60-lb. cans Sweetclover-Alfalfa.

Supplies light. Demand moderate. Sales to retailers and other large buyers -

EXTRACTED: CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers, new crop 12, 3-lb. jars \$8.45; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.81; 24, 16-oz. jars \$6.27; 24, 8-oz. \$3.36. OREGON, new crop, Clover-Vetch 12, 5-lb. jars \$12.12.

BEESWAX: Unchanged at ceiling.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND AND ALAMEDA: Receipts via truck - from Central California - 505 cases Light Amber Alfalfa, 37 cases White Alfalfa Orange, 156 cases Light Amber Buckwheat, 19 cases White Clover Orange, 228 cases Extra Light Amber to White Orange, 189 cases White Orange Sage, 122 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers, 269 cases Extra Light Amber to White Sage, 131 cases Light Amber Sage-Buckwheat-Lima Bean, 23 cases Light Amber Prune Sage; receipts from Northern California - 222 cases Light Amber Carrot, 178 cases light Amber to Extra Light Amber Manzanita, 27 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers, 55 cases Light Amber Snow Brush; receipts from Southern California - 106 cases White to Extra White Orange; Receipts from Nevada - 200 cases White to Extra White Clover; origin not specified - 12,341 lbs. Light Amber Wild Flowers.

SEATTLE: Receipts: 646 cases Calif., 9, 60-lb. cans Wash. Supplies light. Demand good, market generally at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots - WASHINGTON, Alfalfa-Sweetclover, Light Amber, 60-lb. cans  $16\frac{1}{2}\phi$  per lb.; creamed honey 18,,  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. cups \$13.00; 24, 14-oz. cups \$6.24; 30, 14-oz. cups \$8.05. CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers, Light Amber, 24, 1-lb. jars \$6.20-6.49; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.86-6.00; 12, 3-lb. jars \$8.40-8.50; 60-lb. cans \$11.50; Orange Light Amber 6, 5-lb. jars \$6.47; 60-lb. cans \$11.19.

- - - - -

#### CANADIAN HONEY STORAGE

(By Dominion Dept. of Agriculture, Marketing Service)

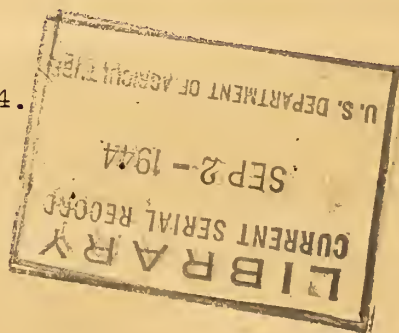
Following are storage holdings of honey in pounds as of August 1, 1944, together with comparative figures for the same date a year ago:

	1943	CONSUMER CONTAINERS	1944	BULK CONTAINERS	1944
Toronto . . . . .	--		600	--	200,000
Winnipeg . . . . .	--		50,544	--	45,080
Calgary . . . . .	--		1,678	--	4,939
Vancouver Island . . . . .	980		26,378	115,440	7,020

- - - - -

Released Feb. 18, 1944.

meb





WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
Office of Distribution

Telephone - REpublic 4142,  
Extension 2176.

Washington 25, D.  
September 1, 1944

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII - No. 17

SUMMARY

The main summer honey flow is over in practically all sections. About all that remains to be gathered is some honey from the fall flows which will add to the supply of winter stores. In portions of the Intermountain Region, eastern Oregon and Washington, and in the southern group of States from Texas eastward to Virginia and Maryland the crop will average somewhat better than last year's. In the balance of the country the crop as a whole will run short of the light crop of last season. This is especially true of much of the white clover belt of the Northeast and North Central States. The long drought which extended from New England westward to the Mississippi River cut the clover flow and retarded the growth of fall plants, although rains over much of this area during the latter part of August broke the drought and revived fall plants. Over much of this area clover seedings were damaged somewhat, but apparently enough clover has survived to assure reasonably good stands for next year. Indications are that next year's clover acreage will not be greatly larger than the comparatively light acreage this year.

Demand for honey has been fairly good but has not been as great as at this season last year. In some sections of the country fairly large stocks of dark honey have accumulated and are having a somewhat detrimental effect on the general demand for honey. There has, however, been no inclination to cut prices below ceiling levels. On the other hand, there has been little indication that any large quantities of honey have moved at prices above the ceiling. In some sections a large portion of the crop will again be packed and sold locally by beekeepers. On the other hand, some beekeepers who packed a large proportion of their crop last year will sell to packers and dealers this year. The quality of the honey crop has been good this year, with most of the honey having a heavy body. Some of the clover honey especially in the northeast has been darker than usual but possesses a generally good flavor. Labor shortages continue to interfere with the operations of some large commercial beekeepers. The overall supply of small glass containers seems to be ample, although in some sections there seems to be a local shortage.

Demand for package bees and queens for next year's shipment has been unusually heavy. Some large package bee and queen producers in the South are already booked to capacity and turning away orders.

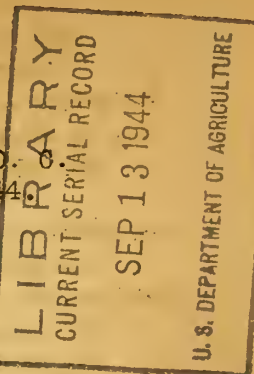
INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period Aug. 8-22)

Southern California. The honey flows for this season are practically over in Southern California. Wild buckwheat is still yielding lightly in the mountains. Sumac, toyon and holly are in full bloom but yielding little nectar. In the valleys lima beans and in irrigated sections alfalfa and limited quantities of sweetclover are still blooming. The total honey crop for this section is the smallest in many years averaging probably not much more than one-third of average. Colonies are in generally good condition with ample brood and plentiful pollen stores. Some colonies located close to tomato fields have been poisoned from dusting. Demand for honey has been greater than the available supplies but has not been as active as at this season last year. Honey has moved out about as rapidly as it has been extracted at the ceiling of \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds, f.o.b. country shipping points, regardless of flavor or color. Beeswax continued in good demand at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash or 43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

-over-





Central and Northern California. Weather has been favorable in the interior valleys but has been rather cool with considerable fog along the coast. In central California alfalfa, cotton, beans, clover, and various weeds have been producing some but the flow is lighter than normal. Some colonies have been poisoned by cotton and tomato dusting. In the mountain areas have produced little during the past month. In northern California star thistle is now producing but prospects are for a below average crop of thistle honey. Demand for the lighter grades of honey has been very good both f.o.b. and wholesale to packers and bottlers. On the other hand darker grades have moved slowly and stocks are beginning to accumulate in dealers hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, central California, Alfalfa, Alfalfa-Buckwheat, Alfalfa-Sage, Alfalfa-Clover-Bean-Sage, Buckwheat, Lima Bean, Eucalyptus, and Mixed Flowers; northern California Alfalfa, Alfalfa-Clover-Thistle, Carrot, Manzanita, Mixed Flower and Star Thistle in case to ton lots or more 12¢.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period Aug. 8-22)

West of Cascades. The honey flow is practically over in the Willamette Valley. Bees are obtaining some pasturage from late wild flowers but no surplus. Pollen has been plentiful and broodrearing rather heavy, with the result that stores have been consumed rapidly. The fireweed crop was again below average. In mountain locations yields have run from 20 to 50 pounds, with best locations averaging in the neighborhood of 35 to 40 pounds per colony. In the poorer fireweed locations many colonies produced little or no surplus. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - southern Oregon Alfalfa and western Oregon and Washington Clover-Vetch in case to ton lots 12¢ per lb.

East of Cascades. Present indications point to the best honey crop in eastern Oregon and Washington since 1940. In good locations from 100 to 200 pounds per colony have been produced and estimates place the average surplus at this time among commercial beekeepers at around 100 pounds, with farmer-beekeepers having an average of around 60 to 75 pounds. Second cutting alfalfa produced very well and present indications are that the third-cutting will yield better than average. The quality of the crop is generally good. Extracting is becoming active among the larger commercial beekeepers, with labor shortages interfering with operations of some. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Alfalfa-Clover in carlots and case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢. Comb Clover-Alfalfa best \$7.00 per case.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period Aug. 8-24)

Most of the territory east of the Continental Divide promises to produce a crop about the same as last year. In some sections of Colorado and Montana the crop is somewhat better than last year, while in other sections of these two States and in Wyoming the crop will likely be below average. Dry weather has cut off the flow early in much of Colorado and Wyoming. In the States west of the Continental Divide the production will likely be considerably below that of last season. Demand for honey has been fairly good especially on the part of buyers and packers interested in carload lots. Demand is not as heavy or insistent as at this time last season, however. All honey is moving at ceiling levels. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted Alfalfa-Clover in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 19 1/3-19 1/2¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 23¢. Section comb- Clover-Alfalfa, few sales Idaho at \$6.00-7.00 per case. Details by States follow:-

Colorado. At the end of August crop expectations were somewhat below those reported early in August. In some sections the crop is expected to be better than last year, while in other sections it will be below. It now seems probable that the crop for the State as a whole may average about the same as last year. Hot, dry weather which set in early in August greatly reduced the flow in many sections. At the end of the month abnormally cold weather prevailed over much of the State, with a heavy hail storm in the vicinity of Denver and Pueblo and light frosts reported in the San Luis Valley. Quality of the honey is very good, with heavy body and light color.

Wyoming. The crop in Wyoming is very spotted. In some sections it is running about half of last year, while other sections are reporting a crop 20 to 25 percent better. For the State as a whole production will probably be slightly below that of last year. Dry weather has dried up most of the sweetclover. Alfalfa is doing poorly where it has not been watered recently. Much of the alfalfa was cut for hay before a heavy bloom had set.

- continued -



Montana. The honey crop for the State as a whole will likely average better than last year. Some individual beekeepers report a crop 50 percent heavier. On the other hand, some sections have a crop somewhat below that of last year. This is especially true in the Milk River Valley where production got under way late in the season and cool weather during the latter part of August cut the flow short. Good rains fell over much of eastern Montana which may produce some late honey provided mild weather prevails.

Idaho. The crop over most of Idaho is rather short. Large acreages of alfalfa have been plowed up during recent years and planted to quick cash crops. In some sections sweetclover pasturage has been fairly plentiful, while in others it has been scarce. In western Idaho much of the honey is rather low grade, being of onion, carrot and other seed crop flavors. Also much of the honey in Idaho this season is dark. Despite this demand has been good provided the flavor is not objectionable.

Utah. Little or no honey was produced during the middle and latter parts of August. Extracting is getting under way and the crop as a whole is considerably below average. In only a few of the better yards have surpluses as high as 60 pounds per colony been reported. Field forces are very light. In some sections American foulbrood is serious, while in others bees are dying, apparently from poisoning.

Nevada. The flow from second-cutting alfalfa was very good during this period, with warm days and cool nights. In some sections the crop is expected to be considerably better than last season, while in others the crop will be very light.

ARIZONA: (Period August 8-24)

In the irrigated valleys and tamarisk sections colonies are still gaining some weight, - in some sections as much as four pounds per day. In the desert sections little or no nectar is available and bees are slowly losing weight. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Alfalfa, one carlot sale reported at 12¢; Mesquite in single 60s 13<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢, in small pails 18¢.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period August 10-26)

East Texas. Hot, dry weather continued into the latter part of the month, with poor prospects for a fall flow, although good rains at the end of the month over much of north and central Texas have improved plant conditions. Loss of bees from cotton dusting has been much lighter this year than in recent seasons. Package and queen orders for 1945 shipment continue heavy, with some apiaries already turning away orders. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Mixed Flowers, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢. Beeswax 41<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢ per lb. cash f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Southeast Texas. The long-continued drought has completely dried up practically all nectar sources, although in some locations bees are obtaining sufficient nectar to meet their daily needs. Little or no pollen is available in this section and many colonies are growing weaker despite the fact that there is plenty of honey in the hives. Queen rearing has been extremely difficult under these conditions. Some package bee shippers in this section are already booked to capacity for next year's shipment. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Mixed Flowers in gallon jugs 17¢.

Southwest Texas. Bees are generally inactive in this section, due to hot weather and lack of nectar. Many beekeepers plan to leave practically the entire crop on the hives for winter stores. On the other hand, some beekeepers will have some surplus. Demand for honey has been rather light during recent weeks. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Cotton, 1 carlot reported 12¢; Mixed Flowers in case to ton lots 12¢.

New Mexico. The Mesilla Valley continues very hot and dry and prospects are for one of the lightest crops on record. Robbing by bees has been serious. In the middle Rio Grande Valley the honey flow is spotted. Some yards are doing exceedingly well while others have produced very little. Rains around the middle of August should improve late prospects.



Arkansas. In those sections where colonies were in strong condition in the spring a crop of about normal proportions has been produced. Some losses of bees are being reported from cotton poisoning. Late high water in the swamps has caused most swamp plants to bloom abnormally late. Except that bloom will be late fall prospects appear favorable. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, extracted Mixed Flowers in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢ each.

PLAINS AREA: (Period August 10-26)

Red River Valley of North Dakota and Minnesota. Extracting is becoming general in the Red River Valley. Present indications point to a crop about the same as that of last year. Individual beekeepers report yields ranging from 40 to 100 pounds per colony, with the average for good commercial beekeepers probably running somewhere between 60 and 75 pounds. Recent rains and cool weather have kept bees confined a large portion of the time and interfered with bee yard operations. Young clover plants for next year are in unusually good condition. Apparently the acreage of sweetclover for next season will be little if any larger than this. Goldenrod and other fall flowers are beginning to bloom but little honey has been obtained from these sources so far. Demand for honey is not nearly as heavy as at this time last season. Many beekeepers have already contracted their crop. While considerable honey will be packed locally by beekeepers, this practice will likely not be quite as general as it was in this territory last season. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Sweetclover in case to ton lots 12¢, in small pails 15¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 23-24¢.

Iowa. Little surplus honey was stored in most sections of Iowa during August. Where Hubam clover and late sweetclover were available, small surpluses were produced. Fall flowers are beginning to bloom, but have produced little to date. For the State as a whole the crop is below average although some sections have produced a better crop than last year. In many yards broodrearing has been quite active with the result that consumption of stores has been heavy. While demand for honey is fairly good, it is much lighter than last season. Many packers and bottlers are buying for immediate needs rather than for anticipated markets. Apparently few if any special inducements are being made by buyers this year, although ceiling prices are still being offered and paid. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Clover, in carlots and case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s to consumers 15¢, in small pails 17-20¢, mostly around 19¼-19½¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb. cash, and 43½¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Nebraska. The honey crop in many sections of Nebraska will again be below average. In some of the better areas the crop may run as much as 25 percent heavier than last season. For the State as a whole yields may average about the same. The early part of August was extremely hot and dry, cutting off the summer flow unusually early, while the latter part of August was cool and wet and prevented bees from gathering much nectar. Fall plants appear in good condition, but as a rule little fall honey is expected in this State. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Sweetclover in single 60s 13-15¢, mostly 15¢.

Kansas. The crop in Kansas will be lighter than last year and also below normal. Estimates run from 25 percent to 75 percent of an average crop with yields ranging from 30 to 90 pounds per colony, with the average possibly around 40-50 pounds. Demand for honey has been fairly good. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Light Amber Mixed Flowers, in single 60s to consumers 15¢, in small pails 20-22¢.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period August 12-28)

Michigan. On the northern peninsula rains have improved fall crop conditions. Goldenrod and early asters are producing. A much larger than average crop of white clover honey was produced on the upper peninsula. This contrasts sharply with conditions on the lower peninsula where the crop is extremely short. Many large beekeepers on the lower peninsula have extracted a large proportion of their crop and report yields of from 20 to 35 pounds per colony, with some having little more than winter stores. Conditions are slightly better on the northern half of the lower peninsula than in the southern portion of the State. Recent rains have saved young clover seedlings which were suffering severe damage from the long summer drought. Apparently much of the Michigan crop will be packed and sold locally. One large supply dealer reports the sale of

- continued -



glass jars to be much above normal. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, White Clover in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 22¢. Section comb-White Clover \$5.75-6.50 per case.

Wisconsin. The Wisconsin honey crop will again be below average, with average colony yields running possibly 35-50 pounds. Some colonies have not stored sufficient honey for winter stores. Goldenrod is blooming profusely but so far is producing little nectar, although it is producing considerable pollen which is stimulating egg laying and broodrearing so that most colonies are in strong condition. Local demand for honey continues fairly good but demand from large outside buyers has been rather light. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, White Clover, in carlots and case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s to consumers 15¢, in small pails few sales 21¢.

Minnesota. Crop conditions in Minnesota are very spotted, in some sections the crop will be better than last year with averages running around 100 pounds per colony and occasional outstanding yards producing as much as 200 pounds of surplus honey. Such sections are, however, the exception rather than the rule. The crop for the State as a whole will be below average and possibly below the crop of last year. The weather since the middle of August has been extremely cool for this season, with night temperatures in the low 40s. Good rains over most of Minnesota have relieved drought conditions and put fall honey plants in fairly good condition. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Clover in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 18-20¢.

Ohio. Considerable fall honey is being gathered from buckwheat, goldenrod, and heartsease. Drought conditions prevailed over Ohio until mid August, but since that time good rains with cooler weather have resuscitated plants. The main clover honey crop is again short and will probably just about equal the 30 pound average crop of last year. In some sections average yields will run even below this. The quality of the clover honey crop has been very good, although some honey has been rather dark. Extracting is progressing satisfactorily. Little honey has moved as yet with all sales reported at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb., f.o.b., in case to ton lots, and 15¢ per lb. in single 60s to consumers.

Indiana and Illinois. Rains during the latter part of August have relieved drought conditions and revived fall plants. Heartsease, aster, and Spanish needle are plentiful in most sections and should be producing soon provided weather is favorable. The main clover honey crop was short with most sections producing only around 30-45 pounds per colony, although in some sections colony yields as high as 100 pounds have been reported. Young clover seedlings have suffered in many sections, although in most sections enough plants came through to produce a fairly good stand for next year. Considerable honey has been extracted. Much of the crop is moving locally directly to consumers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, White Clover in single 60s to consumers and bulk in consumers' containers 14½-15¢, mostly around 15¢, a very few sales in case to ton lots 12¢.

#### NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Aug. 13-29)

New York. Much of the clover crop has been extracted and in all sections of the State the crop is much below the crop of last year and also below average. In those sections where fairly large acreages of buckwheat are available considerable buckwheat honey is being stored. In better sections a surplus of around 40-60 pounds of buckwheat was put on the hives during August. Quality of the buckwheat honey is good but the clover honey crop is running darker than normal. Rains in most portions of the State during the latter part of August relieved the long drought period. Demand for honey is running somewhat lighter than last season although as a whole demand has held up fairly well at ceiling prices. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, White Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in small pails 17-18¢, in 1-lb. glass jars mostly around 21¢, with a few low as 18¢, in 2-lb. glass jars 19.8¢; Buckwheat in small pails 16.6¢; Amber Sumac in small pails 19¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 20¢.

Vermont. On August 25 the weather was still dry and supers were being removed as rapidly as possible. The honey flow is finished and very little is coming in. Vermont normally produces little or no fall honey. It is estimated the crop will run about 20-30 percent below that of last year. Demand continues good. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Clover, in small pails 17¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢. Section comb-Clover, No. 1, \$6.50 per case of 24 sections. - over -



Connecticut. The long-continued dry spell has cut the honey flows. Clethra (pepperbush) gave little surplus. The July crop from sumac was about average and of good quality. From present indications the crop in Connecticut will run only slightly below that of last year.

New Jersey. The severe drought which has prevailed over New Jersey during most of the summer continued into the end of August. Fall plants are stunted and prospects for any fall honey are very light. Unless some fall honey is obtained many beekeepers will have to feed during the winter.

Pennsylvania. At the end of the month the weather was cool and dry. Buckwheat was yielding less than a normal crop and with the short clover crop it is expected that the total production in Pennsylvania will run less than one-half of normal, with many yards having not more than a quarter of a crop. Goldenrod is plentiful but cool weather has prevented bees from working it much of the time. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.- Extracted, Clover in case to ton lots 12¢.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period Aug. 13-29)

Maryland. Temperatures during much of this period have been unseasonably low. There was insufficient rain to materially benefit fall plants which are badly in need of moisture to assure a fall honey flow. Bees are in good condition though idle because of lack of bloom. The crop to date is considerably better than last season but still below normal.

West Virginia. In the mountains of West Virginia thunder showers and good heavy rains have broken the drought. Asters are growing well and beginning to bloom. The outlook is for a fairly good fall flow from goldenrod and aster.

Virginia. In the Tidewater section bees have been inactive during most of this period as a result of cool, wet weather. Fall plants are in good condition and, with favorable weather, prospects are good for a fall flow. Demand for honey has been light and no sales were reported. Beeswax moved at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash and 43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

North Carolina. Bees are in good condition and gathering enough honey for their daily needs but storing no surplus at this time. The crop for this season will run at least 25-50 percent greater than last year. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, section comb, Crimson Clover No. 1 to wholesalers \$6.50 per case, in small lots \$7.20 per case; No. 2 to wholesalers \$4.80. Bulk comb (chunk) honey in 3-lb. glass jars 15¢ per lb. Extracted Mixed Flowers in case to ton lots 11½¢ with cans returned.

South Carolina. A better than average crop of sourwood honey was produced in the mountains. Cotton and Mexican clover are producing no surplus at this time. Goldenrod is beginning to yield in the mountains and in the southern part of the State.

SOUTH CENTRAL SECTION: (Period Aug. 13-29)

Kentucky. Good heavy rains fell over practically all of Kentucky during this period. These should insure a fairly good fall flow from goldenrod and asters.

Tennessee. Recent rains over most of the State except upper east Tennessee have greatly improved prospects for a fall honey flow from goldenrod, asters, and other fall flowers. Beekeepers hope that sufficient fall honey will be obtained so that winter feeding may not be so necessary as had been expected. Colonies are below normal in strength over much of the State.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Aug. 12-28)

Georgia. In south Georgia cloudy and showery weather prevailed during much of July and August with the result that little honey was stored in those two months. In the case of some beekeepers feeding was necessary. Colonies, however, are now in fairly good condition and fall honey plants have made good growth. Mexican clover and bitterweed are beginning to produce. The early honey crop in Georgia was better than average and present indications point to a crop possibly 25 percent larger than last year's. Demand for honey has been light. Sales f.o.b. shippingpoint - bulk comb and extracted \$5.09 per case of 6, 5-lb. jars.

- continued -



Florida. Bees are obtaining little at this time except some pasturage from smartweed and other fall flowers. The cabbage palmetto flow was a little below normal, and mangrove was almost a failure in sections of the west coast. Condition of fall flowers is much better than average so that some fall honey should be produced. Demand for honey has been very light especially for the darker grades. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Orange, 1 carlot reported at 11½¢ in steel drums with drums returned; Amber Mixed Flowers in 5-lb. pails \$9.60 per dozen.

Alabama. In southern Alabama Mexican clover, bitterweed, and other fall flowers are producing fairly well and prospects are favorable for a good fall crop.

Louisiana. In southern Louisiana colonies are losing weight to a small extent, with no further prospects for an additional flow until mid October when goldenrod will start blooming. Considerable pollen is being collected from partridge pea which is stimulating broodrearing. Condition of bees is better than normal with most yards having ample stores at this time to carry their bees through the winter. Fall honey plants are in thrifty condition. Inquiry for package bees and queens for 1945 delivery continues to improve. In northern Louisiana extracting has been largely completed. The crop is below that of last season. The honey is of good body but unusually dark. Hot, dry weather for the past sixty days has burned up most fall honey plants with the exception of goldenrod. Some re-queening is now being done. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - southern Louisiana Clover and northern Louisiana Mixed Flowers in case to ton lots 12¢.

#### TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of August. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: Nothing arrived. Demand slow, market dull.

EXTRACTED and COMB: No supplies on market.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by truck, 400 lbs. Ill., no rail receipts reported.

COMB: Supplies very light. Demand good, market firm. Sales to retailers - ILLINOIS, cases 24 sections White Clover, cellophane-wrapped, very few sales in small lots \$8.50, few half cases 12 sections \$4.25.

EXTRACTED: Practically no supplies on market. No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 43½-46¢, occasional lot 41½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago.

DENVER: Receipts extracted Colo. approximately 110,000 lbs.

EXTRACTED: Demand good but less than last year at this time. Market generally steady. Sales to retailers - COLORADO, White to Water White Sweet-clover, Alfalfa, Mixed Mountain Flowers, cases 12, 5-lb. tins \$11.61-12.00; glass, 12, 2-lb. \$5.43-5.65; 12, 44-oz. \$6.29; 12, 12-oz. \$2.40; 24, half-pound \$3.30-3.39.

COMB: Offerings light. Demand good, market steady. Cases 24 frames cellophane-wrapped Fancy \$6.75-7.25, Extra Fancy \$7.50-8.00.

BEESWAX: Receipts approximately 3,000 lbs. Demand moderate, market steady at ceiling. Domestic crude 41½¢ lb.

KANSAS CITY: Equivalent 2 cars Iowa by truck arrived. Local truck receipts moderate. Market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales to manufacturers - CALIFORNIA, Amber Alfalfa 15½¢. IOWA and local, White Clover 15¢. Sales to retailers - IOWA and LOCAL, Light Amber Alfalfa and White Clover cases 2 dozen 1-lb. glass \$5.75-6.25, 1 dozen 5-lb. glass \$11.50-12.50; 1 doz., 2-lb. glass \$5.65-6.00.



MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, extracted Minn. 590, 60-lb. cans White Sweetclover; 34, 60-lb. cans Light Amber, 200 lbs. beeswax.

EXTRACTED: Supplies light. Demand slow, market dull. Sales to wholesale grocers- U. S. No. 1 Blended honey 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$5.72. Sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$6.52.

BEESWAX: Supplies light. Demand fair, market steady. Sales delivered Minneapolis for Domestic crude Light Yellow cash 41½¢, in trade 43½¢.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by boat origin not specified 15 bbls.; by rail Florida 30 cartons; by truck Pa. 1 ton. Supplies light. Demand slow, market weak for foreign, strong for Domestic.

EXTRACTED: Sales by receivers to retailers - Domestic: CALIFORNIA, 60-lb. cans Sage-Alfalfa, Light Amber 16-16½¢. PENNSYLVANIA, White Clover 60-lb. cans at ceiling. Imported, Very few sales to jobbers and manufacturers - sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling price as follows: per lb. warehoused by dealer in U.S.A.: 12,000 or over 11½¢, less than 12,000 but not less than 1500 lbs. 12½¢, less than 1500 but not less than 300, 13½¢, less than 300 lbs. 14½¢.

BEESWAX: by boat origin not specified 341 tons, 3 sacks. Supplies very light. Demand good, market firm at ceiling. Sales by receivers port of entry- SOUTH AMERICAN and WEST INDIES, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun-bleachable 41½¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Honey and Beeswax: No arrivals. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: Extracted 600 lbs. No sales reported.

PORTLAND: Receipts: via motor truck, from Oregon Clover-Vetch, 815 cases 5-lb. jars and 276 60-lb. cans; from Klamath County 200, 60-lb. cans Alfalfa; from Idaho 1500 cases 5-lb. glass jars and 100, 60-lb. cans; comb honey from Idaho 500 cases. Supplies moderate. Demand good for manufacturing purposes, but consumer demand slow, prices have been generally held at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other large buyers - OREGON, Clover-Vetch, case lot 12, 5-lb. jars \$12.12. IDAHO, Mixed Flowers Light Amber \$12.44; bulk in 60-lb. cans 15¢. Brokers' sales in large lots - OREGON, Clover-Vetch 12, 5-lb. jars delivered Portland \$11.61.

COMB: Demand better than for extracted honey. Sales to retailers - IDAHO, Fancy 24, 12-oz. \$9.30, Choice 10-oz. \$9.10. Brokers' sales in large lots-IDAHO, 24, 12-oz. Fancy \$7.90; Choice 10-lb. \$7.60.

BEESWAX: Demand slow with stock piling up but dealers continue buying small lots at ceiling of 41½¢.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts very light. Trading very light, market firm. Sales by commission merchants and wholesalers to retailers -

EXTRACTED: COLORADO, Alfalfa Light Amber cartons 12 2-lb. jars \$6.21; 12, 1-lb. jars \$3.27; 12, half lb. jars \$1.88.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND AND ALAMEDA: Receipts: by truck, from Central California 70 cases Extra Light Amber Alfalfa; 127 cases Light Amber Alfalfa-Buckwheat; 15 cases Light Amber Alfalfa-Sage; 750 cases Extra Light Amber to White Alfalfa-Clover-Bean-Sage; 30 cases Light Amber Buckwheat; 65 cases Light Amber Lima Bean; 55 cases Light Amber Eucalyptus; 818 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers; from Northern California- 44 cases Light Amber Alfalfa, 765 cases Extra Light Amber to White Alfalfa-Clover-Thistle; 160 cases Amber Carrot; 104 cases Light Amber Manzanita; 40 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers; 311 cases Extra Light Amber to White Star Thistle; from Southern California - 60 cases Extra White Orange; 100 cases White Sage; 75 cases Extra Light Amber Sage Buckwheat; from Nevada - 94 cases White Clover; from Oregon - 49 cases White Clover.

SEATTLE: Receipts: Calif., 646 cases 6, 5-lb. jars; Idaho, 500 cases, 12, 5-lb. cans and 900 cases 1 and 2-lb. jars. Supplies increasing. Demand moderate, market generally unchanged at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots - WASHINGTON, Alfalfa-Sweetclover, no supplies on market; creamed honey 18, 2½-lb. cups \$13.00; 24, 14-oz. cups \$6.24; 30, 14-oz. cups \$8.05. CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers, Light Amber 24, 1-lb. jars \$6.20-6.49; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.80-6.00; 12, 3-lb. jars \$8.40-8.50; 60-lb. cans \$11.50; Orange Light Amber 6, 5-lb. jars \$6.47; 60-lb. cans \$11.19. IDAHO, Alfalfa-Sweetclover 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.95; 12, 5-lb. cans \$12.60.



1.9  
M 34 H 0  
Reserve

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
Office of Distribution

Telephone - REpublic 4142,  
Extension 2176.

Washington 25, D. C.  
September 15, 1944.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII - No. 18

SUMMARY

Drought conditions which prevailed in many sections of the country during much of the summer were broken by good rains during this period. Much of the Pacific coast area and portions of the Intermountain area, however, remains abnormally dry. Temperatures over much of the east and middle west during early September were somewhat below normal while in the Pacific Northwest and portions of California above normal temperatures prevailed. In western Oregon and Washington record high temperatures for September were established.

All major honey flows have ended. Extracting is active in all areas. Over most of the north central and eastern States and well into the south goldenrod and asters are yielding. Through the middle west heartsease and Spanish needle are fairly plentiful. In most sections prospects are fair for a favorable fall flow which will provide additional winter stores. In practically all sections of the country colonies are in good condition with plentiful brood and young bees. In most sections it appears that plenty of honey will be available for winter stores. Except for the South Atlantic, South Eastern, South Western, portions of the Intermountain area, and in eastern Oregon and Washington reports continue to indicate a crop much below normal and in many sections below the light crop of last year. The general quality of the honey crop is good. Demand for honey improved in most sections as compared to a month ago, but is still below the heavy demand that prevailed at this season last year. However, the general feeling exists that in view of the light national honey crop little trouble will be experienced in moving good grades at ceiling prices. In some sections fairly plentiful supplies of dark imported honey and also of various sugar sirups have caused some lessening in retail demand for honey. In most sections clover plants appear in fairly good condition for next year. However, portions of the North Central area and in the Northeast drought has reduced stands and it seems possible that some additional acreage of clover may be plowed up this fall or next spring.

CURRENT STATUS

☆ SEP 23 1944

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period Aug. 22-Sept. 7)

Southern California. Considerable hot weather prevailed over Southern California during early September, followed by cloudy and cooler weather. The honey flows have practically ended. A little pasturage is being obtained from scattered late wild buckwheat, tule-curls, rabbit brush, lima beans and miscellaneous weeds. Considerable pollen is being gathered in some locations. Colonies are in good condition with plenty of bees, brood, and in most cases with sufficient stores of pollen and honey. Brush fires over rather widespread areas, especially in San Diego county, have burned over a large acreage of bee pasture and destroyed some apiaries. Demand for honey has been somewhat lighter recently. However, with the short California crop it is not expected that this slackening in demand will materially affect the price. Some foreign honey from Mexico and Central America and a little from Hawaii which has been offered has had a bearing in slowing down the demand for local honey. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, extracted, in case to ton lots \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds regardless of type and flavor. Beeswax continued in good demand at the ceiling of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. f.o.b. cash to beekeepers and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade.

Imperial Valley. Bees appear in normal condition in the Imperial Valley. No honey is being obtained at this time. Tamarisk has produced nothing this year. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, Alfalfa, 1 car reported 12¢.

- over -



Central California. The warmest weather of the summer prevailed during the past week in both the central valleys and the coastal regions. A little honey is coming in from star thistle and miscellaneous weeds. Greasewood is just beginning to bloom. In some sections bees have been swarming quite heavily during recent weeks. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.- Extracted, Alfalfa, Buckwheat, and Mixed Flowers in case to ten lots 12¢.

Northern California. Colonies are generally in very poor condition for this season. In some sections they have been weakened by arsenical poisoning. In other sections where colonies were in poor condition at the beginning of the thistle flow they built up fairly well. Star thistle dried up early in most of the valley sections and the thistle crop will be the lightest in a number of years. The clover crop for northern California will likely run not more than 25-35 percent of normal. A little honey is now being obtained from alfalfa, spikeweed, morning glory, blue curls and late yellow star thistle. Demand for honey has been very good. Some bottlers fear that with the light crop of star thistle honey they will have insufficient supplies to carry them through until next season. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted: Thistle, Carrot, and Mixed Flowers 12¢. Imported, Wild Flower honey 11¢ per lb. dockside in Bay Cities area.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period Aug. 22-Sept. 7)

West of Cascades. Abnormally warm weather prevailed during the early part of September except along the coast. In some of the interior valleys record September temperatures were established. Heavy showers at the close of the period reduced fire hazards in fireweed sections. The fireweed flow is over and in most sections the crop is one-half of normal or less. In some of the lower elevations having a fairly long flow yields of 40-50 pounds per colony were obtained, but in most sections and especially the higher elevations yields have run only 15-25 pounds per colony. Bees are generally in good condition and most colonies have ample stores. Little large lot buying of honey was reported as many producers are selling their late crops at roadside stands.

East of Cascades. In general bees are in good condition, although some foulbrood has been reported in the Walla Walla district and spray injury was rather serious in the Yakima Valley and some other fruit areas. A fairly good flow continued through this period which is rather unusual since the flow in eastern Oregon and Washington is usually over by August 15. In the Yakima Valley considerable honey has been gathered from mint during this period. In some cases the mixture of mint has been so heavy as to injure the flavor of the honey. The crop in eastern Washington and northeastern Oregon will run considerably heavier than last year, with reports of colony yields ranging from 65 to 100 pounds per colony - in some favorable locations running even higher. Extracting is in full swing. Demand for honey continues good. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.- Alfalfa-Clover in case to ten lots 12¢, in single 60s to consumers 15¢.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period Aug. 24-Sept. 8)

The honey gathering season is practically over in this entire area. Much of the crop has been extracted in Colorado, Wyoming, and Nevada. Production will likely average somewhat better than last season in Colorado, Montana and over most of Nevada, while in other States the crop will run below that of last season. In all sections production has been very spotted, with some yards reporting very good yields, while others have had abnormally light yields. Demand for honey has improved during the past month, with a number of large buyers in the territory. Demand, however, is below the extremely heavy demand at this season last year. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Alfalfa-Clover in case to ten lots and in carlots 12¢; in single 60s to consumers mostly 15¢, with some as low as 13 1/3¢.

Colorado. The honey flow is over in most sections of Colorado with the exception of a little pasturage from miscellaneous fall flowers and weeds. Some sections of Colorado, especially on the Western Slope, experienced an extremely dry summer. However, irrigation water held up very well. Honey yields are extremely spotted over the State, with large variations in average colony yields occurring within relatively short distances. Some sections will have a crop twice as large as that of last season while in others the crop will be lighter. For the State as a whole, however, the average is expected to be somewhat heavier than last year. Extracting is progressing well although labor shortages are interfering with operations of some large commercial beekeepers.



Wyoming. The flow is largely over in Wyoming and many beekeepers have practically finished extracting. Yields ranging from 50 to 100 pounds per colony have been reported in better locations. In most sections, however, the crop will run somewhat below normal. This resulted from a combination of cool weather, poor colony strength in the spring, and in some sections nosema or poisoning.

Montana. The main honey flows are over but bees are still gathering a little nectar for current use on warm days. Extracting is largely completed. In most sections the crop is considerably better than last season and also above normal, although in the Milk River Valley the crop may be below average. Bees are in excellent condition for winter. Heavier than normal rainfall during the summer has produced unusually good plant growth. Demand for honey has been very good. A number of carloads have moved to cooperatives.

Idaho. Yields are very spotted in Idaho, but for the State as a whole the crop will run far below normal. In the eastern Snake River Valley some isolated districts will produce as much as 90 pounds of honey per colony, but the average for this district as a whole will not exceed 40-50 pounds. Further west the crop will only be 30-40 pounds per colony and in the extreme southern part of the State many beekeepers are reporting insufficient honey to carry bees through the winter. The flow is holding up somewhat later than normal in the irrigated sections due to the fact that some late alfalfa has not yet been cut. Demand for honey has been unusually good especially on the part of large buyers.

Nevada. Weather during late August and early September was favorable for honey production but yields are very spotted. In some favorable sections a surplus up to 120 pounds per colony has been obtained, while in other sections the surplus will run not more than 40 pounds. In northern and central Nevada second crop alfalfa is now being worked by bees.

ARIZONA: (Period Aug. 24-Sept. 8)

In southeastern Arizona continued dry weather has been very unfavorable for any honey flow. Plants will be in poor condition for next spring if rain does not come before frost. Most bees are in good condition for winter, having built up on the mid-summer flow. Little surplus honey is available in this section. In southwestern Arizona alfalfa areas produced an extremely good crop of honey. Most colonies are, however, now losing some weight. In the cotton areas dusting is again causing heavy losses to beekeepers. This seems to be most serious in the Buckeye, Casa Grande and Eloy sections. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. Alfalfa, 1 carlot at 12¢ per lb., in case to ton lots Alfalfa-Cotton 12¢; Mesquite in single 60s 13½¢, in small pails 18-20¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. beekeepers.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period Aug. 26-Sept. 11)

East Texas. Good rains have increased prospects for a fall honey flow and some increase from fall plants is now being made. Most colonies are in good condition for winter. Some package bee and queen producers have already booked sufficient orders to take their entire 1945 production. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted, Mixed Flowers in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢.

Southeast Texas. Light rains have fallen during this period temporarily relieving the severe drought that prevailed all summer. Bees are obtaining considerable pollen and some nectar. Queens are laying well. Fall plants are in rather poor condition. Most colonies now have ample stores for fall and winter.

Southwest Texas. Good rains during early September over much of this section caused many brush plants and weeds to bloom. Good pasturage and a little surplus is being obtained from white brush, granjeno (hackberry) soapbrush and button brush. Bees are in very good condition for winter and most have sufficient stores. Many beekeepers are now requeening. The crop for the season as a whole in this area has been rather light due to a practical failure of the spring flow. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, Guajillo in case to ton lots 12¢; Mixed Flowers in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s to consumers 15¢. Some beekeepers are packing their honey in small containers at the base price of 12¢ per lb. plus the cost of jars, labels, cartons and packing.



New Mexico. In the Mesilla Valley the crop will probably run less than half of normal this year. The season has been the poorest in many years. In the upper Rio Grande Valley somewhat better yields have been obtained, with some beekeepers reporting around 125 pounds per colony, although the average will be below this. Extracting is fairly well completed. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, Alfalfa and Mixed Flowers cases 12, 5-lb. glass \$10.18 per case.

Oklahoma. Yields in most sections of Oklahoma have been below normal. The honey is of good body and flavor. Plant conditions for next year have been greatly improved by showers and rains since the middle of August.

Arkansas. Much of this period was rainy with rather cool nights. Heartsease is producing very well when conditions permit flight.

PLAINS AREA: (Period Aug. 26-Sept. 11)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Much of the crop has been extracted in this section and reports indicate a crop which will run from one-third to two-thirds of normal with the average for the section probably not much over 40 pounds per colony. The excessively wet summer has been responsible for the light crop. Rains continued during late August and early September and have interfered to some extent with bee yard operations. Some colonies are in good condition while others are too light in stores for winter. Many queenless colonies have been found and it is expected that many colonies will be killed rather than be carried through the winter. On fair days a little honey is being obtained from asters and other fall weeds. Demand for honey has been fairly good but not nearly as heavy as last year. Many beekeepers are packing their crop in small containers and selling locally, either to consumers or retailers. Many beekeepers are moving their crop as rapidly as possible as there seems to be little or no incentive to hold for later sale. The quality of the honey is generally good. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted- Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. pails or glass 18-19½¢.

Iowa. Much of this period was cool, cloudy and rainy, with the result that fall honey plants have secreted little nectar and bees have been unable to work a large portion of the time. Some nectar is being gathered from heartsease, sunflower, and Hubam clover. Goldenrod has about finished blooming. Most beekeepers are actively extracting the season's crop. Few sections report good yields, and indications are that the crop will be about the same as last year's light crop. Many queenless colonies have been found. Many colonies have been consolidated to bring them up to good winter strength. Plants are in unusually good condition for next season. There seems to be some increase in clover plants but it is expected that next year's acreage of clover will still be below average. Demand for honey is much lighter than at this time last year, but to all appearances will be entirely sufficient to absorb the crop without difficulty. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., White Clover in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 17-18¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢. Section comb few sales Clover Fancy \$7.20 per case. Beeswax, 41½¢ cash, and 43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Nebraska. Abundant moisture and cool weather have put honey plants for next season in excellent condition but have resulted in a very light flow from fall flowers. Some honey is being obtained from alfalfa, smartweed, sunflowers, and heartsease. Extracting is well under way. The quality of the crop is very good. Indications point to a production in most sections not much heavier than last year, although in some favorable localities very good yields have been reported. Bees are in strong condition, with some colonies showing unusually large amounts of brood, resulting in a heavy consumption of stores. Demand for honey has been only fair. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted- White Clover-Alfalfa in case to ton lots 12¢ per lb. with cans furnished, and 11½¢ per lb. with cans returned. Some honey is being packed by beekeepers at the basis of 12¢ per lb. plus packing charges.

Kansas. Reports of yields in Kansas are very spotted. In western Kansas an average or better than average crop has been reported by some beekeepers. In northeastern Kansas the crop is estimated at 25-35 percent of normal and in southern Kansas 25 percent of normal or less. Cool weather prevailed during late August and early September, with first September rains occurring around the 10th. A light smartweed flow has been in progress since the last few days of August. Demand for honey has been fairly good at ceiling.



Missouri. The only report from Missouri indicates a heavy loss in weight in the scale colony during the latter half of August and early September. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, Amber Clover and Mixed Flowers in case to ton lots 12¢; Mixed Clover and Honeydew in case to ton lots 9¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ cash f.o.b. to beekeepers.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period Aug. 28-Sept. 12)

Michigan. On the upper peninsula rainy, cloudy weather during this period has made bee yard work and extracting difficult. Bees have been unable to work fall flowers which are plentiful and blooming rather profusely. Purple aster is especially abundant. Crop conditions are fair on the upper half of the lower peninsula. Many beekeepers have a fairly good crop and in this area the total production may not be far below normal. Over the southern half of the lower peninsula the crop will likely average between one-quarter to one-half of normal. Some large commercial beekeepers claim they have only sufficient honey to winter their bees, others are showing an average of 20-30 pounds with top yields running around 40 pounds per colony. The flow from late alfalfa, goldenrod and other fall flowers has been light to date and prospects are that little fall honey will be gathered. There have been few sales of 60 pound cans during this period and many beekeepers who had previously placed large orders for glass are now taking only a portion of the order, indicating the lightness of the crop. Clover plants are not in good condition for next season and it seems probable that some additional clover acreage will be plowed up this fall or next spring. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, White Clover in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s to consumers 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 18-20¢.

Wisconsin. The honey flows are over in Wisconsin except for a little goldenrod and other fall weeds which are providing a living. In some sections the white clover crop was almost a failure, while in other sections close to average yields were obtained. Estimates place the total crop for the State all the way from 25 to 75 percent of normal. Bees are in generally good condition and most colonies have obtained sufficient fall honey to carry them through the winter. Some colonies are being fed to provide an additional build up. Recent rains have improved clover plantings for next year. Demand for honey has been fairly good. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted- White Clover in case to ton lots, and also 1 carlot reported at the ceiling of 12¢, in single 60s to consumers 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 18-20¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 20¢. Beeswax 41-41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Minnesota. For the State as a whole excepting the Red River Valley the crop for this season will be about the same as last year's light crop which was much below normal. In some localities very good yields have been reported, with some beekeepers in favorable locations having a total surplus of 75 pounds per colony or more. Buckwheat acreage was heavier in southern Minnesota than for many years but in most sections produced little honey. However, in a few localities good buckwheat yields were reported. Spanish needle is plentiful and with favorable weather should produce a fairly large quantity of honey. Most colonies have good supplies of brood, and most have plentiful winter stores, although in some sections feeding will no doubt be necessary to bring bees through the winter unless considerable fall honey is obtained. Demand for 1 and 2-pound containers has been better than for other sizes. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted Clover in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s to consumers 15¢, in 5 and 10-lb. glass jars 18-21¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21-22¢; Basswood Clover in 5-lb. glass jars 18¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Ohio. All surplus flows have ended in Ohio and the crop will again be very short, averaging probably no heavier than last season's light crop. Aster and goldenrod are now producing. The weather has been cool with indications that the fall flow will be short. Bees are in good condition, with considerable brood. There seems to be ample pollen in the hives but many colonies are short of honey and feeding will be necessary. Extracting is about over in most sections. Retail demand has been rather slow, partially as a result of heavy stocks of dark blended honey on grocers' shelves. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted White Clover in 5-lb. glass jars 20¢; section comb No. 1 White Clover \$6.00 per case.

Indiana. Extracting is largely completed in Indiana. The average yield per colony has been very light, ranging from almost nothing to around 65 or 75 pounds per colony with an average for the State of 25-30 pounds per colony of surplus honey. Most sections of northern Indiana have had fairly good rains but portions of eastern and southern Indiana are extremely dry, having had very little rain since late May or early June. Many clover stands have suffered, but to all appearances sufficient clover will pull through to insure a fair stand next year. Much of the crop has already been sold locally, directly to consumers in their own containers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, White Clover in single 60s to consumers 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 18-22¢, in 10-lb. glass jars 17½¢.

Illinois. Considerable honey has been gathered during this period from Spanish needle and heartsease. As a result most colonies will have sufficient stores and plentiful supplies of young bees for winter. Colony yields are extremely variable. Well managed yards in southern and central Illinois have reported yields of 60 to 100 pounds per colony, while many colonies in northern Illinois produced only between 25 and 50 pounds. Retail demand for honey has been good, with a large proportion of the sales to date being in 60 pound cans direct to consumers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., White Clover in single 60s and bulk to consumers 15¢, in small pails 16-19¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 20-21¢.

NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Aug. 29-Sept. 13)

New York. In western New York buckwheat has finished blooming and the yield was light considering the profuse bloom. Wet weather toward the end of the flow kept bees confined much of the time. It is expected the average yield from buckwheat will run around 30-40 pounds per colony although in some favorable locations it may run a little better. In the buckwheat areas bees are in fairly good condition but in many other sections food stores are light and many colonies have light populations. Goldenrod and aster are yielding fairly well in many sections and may provide considerable winter stores. While recent rains have improved plant conditions in many sections clover stands are poor for next year as a result of the long summer drought. Demand for honey has been fairly good but not as heavy as last year. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted Clover in case to ton lots and in carlots 12¢, in single 60s to consumers 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 16.9-19¢, mostly around 18¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 20-21¢, a few high as 22½¢; Buckwheat in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 13-15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 16 2/3-18¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 20¢.

Vermont. The weather in northern Vermont continues dry for this season. Demand for honey has been very good. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, Clover in 5-lb. glass jars 17¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢. Section comb- White Clover No. 1, \$6.00 per case.

New Jersey. Rains at the close of this period broke the prolonged and intense drought which has prevailed over New Jersey. In northern New Jersey goldenrod and asters may now provide some winter stores, while in the southern part of the State it is felt that little fall honey will be gathered. In some sections it will be necessary to unite small colonies and feed for winter.

Pennsylvania. Cold, cloudy weather during the latter part of this period shut off buckwheat flow. However, much of the buckwheat acreage was planted early so that the bulk of the buckwheat honey crop had already been gathered, although the earlier dry weather had affected the flow adversely. Because of earlier dry weather there will be little goldenrod honey. Demand for buckwheat honey has been unusually heavy exceeding the capacity of beekeepers to keep up with orders as cool weather has retarded extracting. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted- Buckwheat in case to ton lots 12¢.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period Aug. 29-Sept. 13)

Maryland. Heavy rains at the end of this period thoroughly soaked the ground and improved prospects for some additional fall honey. To date little fall honey had been gathered in most sections. Bees are in good condition and with a fair fall flow should go into the winter with plentiful stores. Clover stands for next season are good. Honey has been retailing satisfactorily in this area.



West Virginia. In the mountains of West Virginia cool weather has interfered with the aster flow, and prospects are only fair for a fall crop. No honey sales were reported but beeswax sold at the ceiling of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Virginia. In the Tidewater section prospects are fair for a fall flow but in the mountain areas most plants do not look too promising. Severe drought conditions prevailed until close to the end of this period. Extracting is about finished with the surplus in the mountain areas estimated at around 35-50 pounds per colony. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Mixed Flowers, extracted in 5-lb. glass jars 17¢; bulk comb in 5-lb. glass jars 20¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢. Beeswax 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

North Carolina. Sourwood yielded a fair crop in the mountains and the honey flow in the Piedmont area has been exceptionally good. In the eastern part of the State the crop was somewhat below average. A severe drought has prevailed over much of this State with the result that prospects are unfavorable for much of a fall flow. A large percentage of the honey crop is out of producers' hands. Demand for honey, especially extracted, has been lighter than it was a year ago.

South Carolina. Bees in the northern part of the State have very little to work on at this time. The sourwood flow which ended about August 1 was better than average. Goldenrod is blooming in the mountains, but is not producing enough to support the bees. Goldenrod will soon be in bloom in the upper Piedmont. Demand for honey has been very good.

SOUTH CENTRAL SECTION: (Period Aug. 28-Sept. 12)

Kentucky. In north central Kentucky cool, rainy weather prevailed during most of this period. Bees are gathering considerable pollen from ragweed. Prospects are now good for a fall flow from aster and goldenrod. Much of the early honey crop has already moved out of producers' hands. In southwestern Kentucky frequent fall rains should produce a good fall flow. No honey sales were reported, but beeswax sold at the ceiling of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ cash and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Tennessee. Recent rains have helped fall plants which in some areas will likely provide sufficient stores for winter. In other areas where the summer drought was severe goldenrod and aster plants are not plentiful and some feeding probably will be necessary to carry bees through the winter.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Aug. 28-Sept. 12)

Georgia. Mexican clover and bitterweed are now producing good pasturage and in some sections considerable honey for winter stores. Many bees which were left in the swamps are now short on stores. Summer rains cut the summer flow short in many sections. Most colonies have plentiful brood and many young bees, but there has been little swarming. Many beekeepers are replacing failing queens. Labor shortage is still interfering with operations of large commercial beekeepers and some are offering their outfits for sale. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - Amber Mixed Flowers, in small pails 17¢.

Florida. Little is available for bees to work on at this time except that purslane is providing a fairly good flow in northern Florida. In north Florida and along the east coast the summer has been wetter than normal, while on portions of the west coast it has been exceptionally dry. Goldenrod appears in condition for a favorable fall flow. Condition of colonies is extremely variable. In some sections they are strong with good food stores whereas in other nearby sections colonies may be close to starvation. Orders for package bees for next season's shipment have been unusually heavy. Demand for honey has been light but in Florida a light summer demand is normally expected. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, Tupelo-Gallberry in 5 and 10-lb. glass jars 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢.

Alabama. In northern and central Alabama a crop close to average is expected. The honey flow from fall flowers is fairly good at this time. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, extracted, Mixed Flowers, 10-lb. glass jars \$2.12 to consumers.

Louisiana. In southern Louisiana colonies have lost some weight during this period. Local showers and in some sections almost daily rains have produced a vigorous growth on fall honey plants so that if conditions are favorable during October considerable fall honey may be gathered. Orders for package bees and queens for next year's delivered have been fairly heavy. On the other hand, demand for queens for fall delivery have been rather slow during this period. In northern Louisiana recent rains have relieved drought conditions and fall plants are showing fairly good growth. If considerable fall honey is not obtained in this section it will be necessary to feed many colonies to carry them through the winter.

#### TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of September. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals. No sales reported.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by rail, 1 car Calif; by truck 5400 lbs. Ill.

COMB: Supplies very light. Demand good, market firm. Sales to retailers- ILLINOIS, cases 24 sections White Clover, cellophane-wrapped, very few sales, in small lots \$8.50.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand light, market steady. Sales to bakers and other users- ILLINOIS, cases one dozen, 5-lb. glass jars White Clover \$10.18 per case.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 45-46¢, occasional lot 43½¢ delivered Chicago.

DENVER: Receipts: Colo. extracted, approximately 92,000 lbs., comb 125 cases. Demand moderate for extracted, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers - COLORADO, White to Water White Sweetclover, Alfalfa, Mixed Mountain Flowers, cases 12, 5-lb. glass \$11.61-12.00 (Correction in report of Sept. 1 - 12, 5-lb. tin should have read 12, 5-lb. glass); glass 12, 2-lb. \$5.43-5.65; 12, 44-oz. \$6.29; 12, 12-oz. \$2.40; 24, half-pound \$3.30-3.39; 12, 5-lb. tin cans \$11.61.

BEESWAX: Receipts Approx. 3,000 lbs. Demand moderate, market steady. Domestic crude 41½¢ lb.

DETROIT: Receipts: extracted 20,700 lbs. Mich. Demand fair, increasing slightly, market firm at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales by bottlers - MICHIGAN, White and Extra Light Amber, per case 24, 16-oz. jars to wholesalers \$5.04, to retailers \$5.75; 24, 8-oz. jars to wholesalers \$2.77.

KANSAS CITY: Equivalent 3 cars Iowa by truck arrived. Local truck receipts moderate, market about steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales to manufacturers and wholesalers - 60-lb. tins: CALIFORNIA, Light Amber Alfalfa 15½¢. IOWA and LOCAL, White Clover 15¢. Sales to wholesalers- IOWA, cases, 6, 5-lb. glass \$5.30; 12, 2-lb. glass \$4.90; 24, 1-lb. glass \$5.20.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, extracted 20, 60-lb. cans Minn. Light Amber, 100 lbs. beeswax.

EXTRACTED: Supplies light. Demand slow, market dull, very few sales. Sales to wholesale grocers - U. S. No. 1 Blended honey 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$5.72. Sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$6.52.

BEESWAX: Supplies very light. Demand very good, market firm. Sales f.o.b. beekeepers for Domestic crude, Light Yellow cash 41½¢, in trade 43½¢.



NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail 67,860 lbs. Wyo., 50 cartons in glass Fla.; by truck 15,000 lbs. N.Y., 25,000 lbs. Pa. Supplies domestic light, imported moderate. Demand shows some improvement, market at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales by receivers to retailers - Domestic, no sales reported, all for bottling. Imported, very few sales to jobbers and manufacturers- Sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling price as follows: per lb. warehoused by dealer in U. S. A. - 12,000 or over 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, less than 12,000 but not less than 1,500 lbs. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, less than 1500 but not less than 300 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, less than 300 lbs. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, occasional sale lower.

BEESWAX: 212 bags origin not specified arrived. Supplies extremely light. Demand good, market strong at ceiling. Sales by receivers port of entry- SOUTH AMERICAN and WEST INDIAN, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by truck 18,000 lbs. via Bridgeton, N.J. origin not known. Late arrival no prices available.

BEESWAX: No arrivals. No offerings.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, extracted 8,000 lbs. bottled Midwestern. Practically no demand, no sales reported.

PORTLAND: Receipts: by motor truck from Oregon 275, 60-lb. cans Mixed Flowers; from Idaho 350 cases of 12 5-lb. cans; comb from Idaho 655 cases. Supplies moderate. Demand moderate but bottlers and retailers state in position to move present available supplies at satisfactory rate. Prices unchanged with most sales at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other large buyers - OREGON, Clover-Vetch and Mixed Blends 12, 5-lb. jars \$12.12. IDAHO, Mixed Flowers Light Amber 12, 5-lb. cans delivered \$12.60, cash and carry \$11.60; 24, 16-oz. glass jars \$5.95 delivered and \$5.75 cash and carry; bulk in 60-lb. cans 15¢ per lb.

COMB: Supplies moderate. Demand good, market steady. Sales to retailers in case lots - IDAHO, Fancy 24, 12-oz. \$9.30, choice 10-oz. \$9.10.

BEESWAX: There has been no outside demand and supplies have tendency to pile up but dealers continue paying ceiling of 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash or trade.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts very light. Market firm. Sales by commission merchants and wholesalers to retailers -

EXTRACTED: COLORADO, Alfalfa Light Amber cartons 12, 2-lb. jars \$6.21; 12, 1-lb. jars \$3.27; 12, half lb. jars \$1.88. ILLINOIS, Mixed Flowers Light Amber 60-lb. tins few 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb.

SAN FRANCISCO; OAKLAND AND ALAMEDA: Receipts: by truck - from Central California, 342 cases Light Amber Alfalfa, 66 cases Light Amber Buckwheat, 103 cases Amber Mixed Flowers; receipts from Northern California, 202 cases Amber Carrot, 100 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers, 2324 cases Extra Light Amber to White Thistle; beeswax 1,358 lbs. Yellow wax; receipts from Idaho: 300 cases Extra White Clover; receipts from Nevada: 306 cases White Clover. Origin not specified (Imported and Central America) 130,000 lbs. Light Amber Wild Flower.

SEATTLE: Receipts: Calif. 646 cases of 6, 5-lb. jars; Idaho 525 cases of 12, 5-lb. jars, 45, 60-lb. cans; origin not specified 394 cases 60-lb. cans. Supplies moderate. Demand moderate, market generally steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots - WASHINGTON, creamed honey 18, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. cups \$13.00; 24, 14-oz. cups \$6.24; 30, 14-oz. cups \$8.05. CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers Light Amber 24, 1-lb. jars \$6.20-6.49; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.80-6.00; 12, 3-lb. jars \$8.40-8.50, 60-lb. cans \$11.50; Orange Light Amber 6, 5-lb. jars \$6.47; 60-lb. cans \$11.19. IDAHO, Alfalfa-Sweetclover, Light Amber 12, 5-lb. jars and cans \$12.00-12.63; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.95.

- - - - -





7.9  
M34H0  
WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
Office of Distribution

Telephone - REpublic 4142,  
Extension 2176.

Washington 25, D. C.  
October 2, 1944.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII - No. 19

SUMMARY

All major honey flows have ended. In most sections of the country some fall honey from goldenrod, asters, Spanish needle, heartsease and other fall weeds is still being gathered. This will provide a fall build-up for bees and add some honey to winter stores. In many sections rain and cool weather have prevented bees from taking full advantage of the fall flow. Rains have in most sections put honey plants in good condition for next year. In portions of the Northeast and North-central States where severe drought conditions prevailed last summer clover stands are in poor condition. Acreage of clover for next year will apparently be little if any heavier than this year. Bees are in generally good condition with large clusters of young bees and fairly ample winter stores. The notable exception to this is in the package bee producing section of south Georgia where many colonies are very weak and heavy feeding will be necessary.

Unofficial production estimates are now lower than a month ago. It now looks like the total crop may run from ten to twenty percent under last year's below normal production, despite an increase in the number of colonies this year. The Southeast, Gulf States west to Texas and portions of the Intermountain section have yields equal to or better than last season. Except for scattered small areas all other sections have crops below last season and also below average. This is especially true of California, the North-Central States and New York, where a large proportion of the honey crop is produced.

Demand for honey is running below the very heavy demand of last season but is still good for the lighter grades of honey. Dark honey has not moved especially well but little difficulty is anticipated in disposing of the crop at around ceiling prices regardless of flavor or color.

Orders for package bees for next spring delivery are coming in at a very rapid rate, according to Southern package bee and queen producers. Some are already well booked for next season's shipment. In some sections where yields were unusually light it is expected that fairly large numbers of colonies will be gassed and replaced next spring with packages.

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period Sept. 7-22)

Southern California. Temperatures in southern California were extremely variable during this period, with some sections having the highest temperatures of the season and also some of the lowest temperatures since last spring. Plants are mostly dormant, although a little pollen and nectar is being gathered from eucalyptus, late buckwheat, blue curls, and various wild plants as well as from some early mustard in irrigated sections. Colonies are in generally good condition with ample stores except where they were extracted too closely. A large number of colonies are being returned to this section for wintering and many hives have been reduced to one story. Extracting is practically completed. Additional brush fires during this period have destroyed considerable bee pasture. A large percentage of the honey crop is already out of producers' hands. Demand has been very good for light honey, but buyers are somewhat cautious in their purchases of dark honey. Some Mexican honey is being offered at prices slightly below the ceiling on dark grades. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted in case to ton lots and larger 12¢ regardless of flavor or color.

- over -



Central and Northern California. Temperatures in the interior valleys moderated considerably from the previous high levels but averaged above or near normal. Typical summer weather continued along the coast with considerable fog. The main honey flows are over in all sections. In central California bees were still working on blue curls and cotton while in northern California they are obtaining a little from late thistle, spikeweed, white and Ladino clovers, alfalfa, morning glory, and blue curls. The star thistle flow in northern California was very light. Colonies generally have good clusters of young bees and where not extracted too closely will likely have sufficient winter stores. The total crop in these sections will probably not run more than 50 percent of average. Demand for honey by bottlers has been very good. Retail demand has improved slightly but is still far below that of a year ago. Buyers and bottlers are having some trouble in obtaining truck delivery both in and out of the State. This is especially true of small lots. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Northern California Alfalfa-Bean, Clover, Thistle, and Mixed Flowers, Central California Alfalfa, Alfalfa-Bean, Eucalyptus, and Mixed Flowers 12¢ per lb.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period Sept. 7-22)

West of Cascades. Weather conditions were favorable during this period but with the exception of a few fall flowers there were no plants for bees to work on. Colonies are in good condition for winter, some are being united; also some will have to be fed since broodrearing has been active and consumption of stores heavy. The crop in western Washington and the northern portion of the Willamette Valley is extremely short while in the southern end of the Willamette Valley and in southwestern Oregon a crop equal to that of last year or possibly a little heavier has been produced. In the Rogue River Valley spray poisoning during the past season has been rather serious.

East of Cascades. In the Yakima Valley the honey-producing season ended around mid-September. This has been the longest honey flow of any season since 1939. Yields over most of eastern Washington have been better than average, with commercial beekeepers producing 75-125 pounds per colony. In northeastern Oregon the yield is about average but not quite as heavy as last season in many yards. In southeastern Oregon yields are spotted with some sections reporting below average yields while others have yields of normal or slightly better. Demand for honey has been very good. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted Clover-Alfalfa in case to ton lots 12¢. Section comb- Clover-Alfalfa No. 1 \$7.00 per case.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period Sept. 8 - 24)

All honey flows are over in the Intermountain Region. In Colorado and Wyoming the crop is rather spotted but will probably average close to that of last year. In Montana the crop as a whole will likely run somewhat better than last year. In the Milk River Valley and in northern Montana the crop will run about normal. In Utah and Idaho the crop is considerably below average although in occasional sections fairly good yields were reported. Bees are in generally good condition except in Utah where many colonies are weak and have dwindled badly as a result of poisoning. Demand for honey has been fairly good in a wholesale way, although not as heavy as last year. Retail demand for honey is considerably lighter than a year ago, possibly due to the fact that there is more imported honey on the shelves and cane and corn sirups have been more plentiful. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted - Alfalfa-Clover in carlots 12¢; in case to ton lots mostly 12¢, with a few small lots as high as 13½¢; in single 60s 13½-15¢, in small pails 15½-17¢. Section comb- Alfalfa-Clover No. 1, \$6.00-6.25 per case, with some as low as \$5.25.

Colorado. Weather conditions were somewhat better during this period than during the early part of September. Bees have obtained little more than pasturage from some late bloom. In northeastern Colorado average colony yields are about the same as last year or in some cases slightly better. On the Western Slope average yields are somewhat higher than a year ago. Taken as a whole yields in Colorado are not as heavy as were anticipated a few weeks ago. Very dry weather during the latter part of the summer followed by cool weather during early September shortened the main honey flow. Bees are in good condition with most colonies heavy in brood and stores.

- continued -



Wyoming. Yields in Wyoming are rather spotted. In some sections the crop will run only 50-60 percent of that of last year, while in other sections, especially in the irrigated valleys, the crop is somewhat heavier than a year ago. Dry weather during the latter part of the summer and cool nights during September have shut off practically all honey flows. Honey plants for next season are in rather poor condition due to the long extended drought.

Montana. Killing frosts around the middle of September ended all honey flows and bees are not making a living at this time. Colonies are in good condition and in practically all sections will go into the winter with strong populations of young bees and plentiful stores. Extracting is practically completed. In the Milk River Valley and over much of northern Montana the crop will run about average while in southern Montana the crop is somewhat better than average with yields up to 170 pounds per colony being reported. Plants for next year are in very good condition although in some sections the ground is getting rather dry and additional rain would provide more favorable wintering conditions.

Idaho. Much of the honey producing territory of Idaho has the lightest crop in many years. Many colonies have not gathered winter stores. In some of the more favorable locations fairly good yields have been obtained but these have been the exception rather than the rule.

Utah. The honey crop in Utah is very spotted although for the State as a whole it will be lighter than last year. Some districts are obtaining fairly good yields while nearby apiaries have produced little or nothing. Many colonies are in very poor condition largely as a result of poisoning. Apparently grasshopper bait has caused less trouble this season than usual but apiaries located in the path of smelter fumes seem to be suffering more than normal damage.

Nevada. Frost in eastern Nevada has brought the honey season to an end. Estimated production in the better sections of eastern Nevada is around 100-120 pounds per colony. Western Nevada is still free of frost but the season is practically over. Yields in western Nevada will run considerable less than in eastern Nevada, being around 50-60 pounds per colony in commercial yards.

#### ARIZONA: (Period Sept. 8-24)

The honey flows in the tamarisk and desert locations are over. Bees in the tamarisk locations have produced around 40 pounds per colony while in better desert locations they have produced 50-60 pounds. In the irrigated valleys yields have run from 60-90 pounds per colony. Bees are in generally good condition, with fairly good winter food stores. Cotton poisoning has not been as serious this year as last, although in some sections there has been some loss. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted Alfalfa in carlots and case to ton lots 12¢; Mesquite in single 60s 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; in small pails 18¢. Beeswax, 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers.

#### SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period Sept. 11-26)

Southeast Texas. Soil moisture from light showers that fell earlier in September has now disappeared and shallow rooted plants have again dried up. Bees are obtaining a small amount of nectar from boneset, morning glories, and balloon vine. Pollen is plentiful and queens are laying well.

Southwest Texas. This area is becoming very dry but bees are still obtaining some honey from tie vine, broomweed and other fall crops. Generally speaking, bees are in the best condition in a number of years with ample stores to carry them through the winter. Some sections produced very little surplus honey while others produced from 40 to 50 pounds per colony. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. Cotton-Mesquite and Cotton-Horsemint honey in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢. Beeswax, 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. cash f.o.b. to beekeepers.

West Texas. July and August were unusually dry in this section but rains during early September have greatly improved moisture conditions. Bees are in unusually good condition with a better than average crop in many sections. Insects which normally interfere with bees have been largely lacking during this season.

Oklahoma. In northeastern Oklahoma conditions have been fairly good during this period and bees are storing some surplus from heartsease, Spanish needle goldenrod and aster. In many yards it is expected that sufficient honey will be obtained from these sources for winter stores.



Arkansas. Nights have been cool but bees have obtained considerable surplus from heartsease and Spanish needle. In some sections the Spanish needle crop has been the heaviest in a number of years. In the cotton sections many colonies were lost from cotton poisoning. Demand for honey has been fairly good. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. Mixed Flowers, in barrels 12¢, in small pails 21¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 24¢.

PLAINS AREA: (Period Sept.) 11-26)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Extracting has been largely completed in this section and colonies are being prepared for winter. Colony yields are much below both last year and average. The wet, cool season interfered with honey gathering during a great portion of the main summer flow. Some yards have produced only 10 or 15 pound surplus per colony, while others have produced as much as 25 to 50 pounds. Most colonies have little brood, with the result that many hives will be combined, some will be gassed to be replaced next season with package bees and in practically all cases heavy fall feeding will be necessary. Very little honey was obtained from fall flowers during September so that winter stores will be light. Indications are that a greater number of colonies will be transported south for the winter, both from a standpoint of saving winter stores and also to make an increase since delivery of package bees was in many cases very late last year and the same situation may possibly prevail next spring. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. pails 18-19¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 23-24¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Iowa. Cool rainy weather during the latter part of September prevented bees from taking advantage of the flow from fall flowers. Fall honey plants were unusually thrifty and if weather conditions had been favorable a large quantity of fall honey might have been gathered. Extracting is well under way. While the crop is possibly 25 percent better than last year it is still far below normal. Yields of 35-50 pounds seem to be common, while yields above this are the exception. Colonies are in good condition for winter and in most cases have ample stores. The cool, wet fall has put plants in unusually good condition. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 15¢ in 10-lb. glass jars 15½-16¢.

Nebraska. Weather during this period was cool with frequent rains with the result that in most sections little fall honey has been stored. However, in central and western Nebraska some winter stores have been added from goldenrod, heartsease, Hubam clover and late alfalfa and sweetclover. Some beekeepers are reporting yields somewhat better than those of last year and about average. Others are reporting yields considerably below average and it is expected that the crop for the State will be below normal. Bees are in generally good condition and plants for next year are in unusually good condition as the result of the cool, moist fall. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Sweetclover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢. Beeswax, 43½¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Kansas. For the State as a whole the fall flow has not been as good as usual as a result of a cool September with considerable rain toward the end of the month. In south central Kansas there was a fairly good alfalfa-spikeweed flow during September, while in southeastern Kansas a fairly good Spanish needle flow was produced, with many colonies averaging around 40 pounds from this source. The total crop for the State may not be far below normal. Sweetclover produced fairly well during the height of the season. However, much of the sweetclover honey in Kansas is a little darker than usual. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Light Amber Sweetclover, in 5-lb. glass jars 18¢ per lb.

Missouri. For the State as a whole indications point to a crop below that of last year and also below normal. In some sections yields averaged somewhat better than last year. Cool nights with considerable rain during the latter part of September seriously reduced the Spanish needle flow in the river bottom sections. Bees are in only fair condition. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted- Clover and Mixed Flowers in 10-lb. glass jars 20¢.



EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period Sept. 12-23)

Michigan. Extracting is progressing rapidly over practically all of Michigan. On the southern half of the lower peninsula the crop is the shortest in many years, with average yields being reported at from 20 to 40 pounds per colony with most beekeepers reporting only 25 to 30 pounds. Many package colonies did not produce sufficient honey for winter stores. On the other hand, many colonies have built up some on the late flow and have stored sufficient goldenrod and aster honey for winter needs. It is estimated that 20- to 30 percent of the colonies will need heavy feeding to carry them through the winter. On the northern portion of the lower peninsula and on the northern peninsula the crop is somewhat better than in southern Michigan. New clover seedings are in fairly satisfactory condition at this time. Demand for honey has been fairly good. Much of the short crop will be packed by beekeepers and sold locally. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 17-19 1/3¢, few high as 22¢. Section comb- White Clover few sales \$7.20 per case.

Wisconsin. In most sections the fall flow was rather light, but in some sections sufficient goldenrod and aster honey was gathered to provide winter stores. Bees are in generally good condition with many young bees and ample stores. In some yards where little fall honey was gathered some feeding will be necessary. Extracting is largely completed and the crop for the State as a whole will be below normal. In a few favorable sections, however, very good yields were reported. Demand for honey has been fairly good, with much of the crop being packed by beekeepers and sold locally. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Clover in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s to consumers 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 18-20¢, few 22¢.

Minnesota. Cool weather during most of the latter half of September prevented bees from obtaining much fall honey from aster and Spanish needle. Brood-rearing was heavy until mid-September and most colonies are unusually strong. Consumption of stores has been heavy with the result that some feeding will be necessary when bees are packed for winter. The crop in most sections will be below that of last year and far below normal. Some beekeepers will have little or no surplus and some expect to kill their bees and replace next spring with packages. Honey plants appear in very good condition. The acreage of sweet-clover for next year will again be light. Demand for honey has been fairly good but not nearly as active as at this season last year. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - Clover in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s to consumers 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 18¢. Beeswax, 41 1/2¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Ohio. The flow from fall flowers was fairly good in all sections but cool weather prevented many colonies from taking full advantage of these flows. However, most colonies have stored sufficient fall honey for winter stores. Colony condition is normal for this season of the year, but broodrearing is slowing down. At the end of the month the soil was still quite dry but rains since that time have improved moisture conditions. Colony yields in Ohio are again much below normal this year, running in most cases between 25 and 50 pounds per colony. Honey has moved fairly well during this period, generally at ceiling prices. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Clover in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s to consumers 15¢; in 5-lb. glass jars 16 2/3-18¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 22¢.

Indiana. Recent rains have revived clovers and with considerable warm weather bees have been able to gather considerable honey from goldenrod and asters. In southern Indiana many strong colonies have stored as much as 50 pounds of fall honey in addition to ample stores for winter. In other sections colonies have made little more than winter stores from fall honey. Most colonies are in excellent condition. Extracting is largely completed and the main crop of clover honey is somewhat below normal, running in most cases between 30 and 50 pounds. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., White Clover in 5-lb. glass jars 22¢ to consumers.

Illinois. In most sections of Illinois bees obtained a fairly good flow during early September from Spanish needle, but during the latter half of the month weather prevented them from taking full advantage of the aster and heartsease flows. However, most colonies were able to gain sufficient honey for winter stores and in most sections are in generally good condition. In some localities where the drought of last summer was unusually severe, colonies are rather weak and some feeding may be necessary. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.,



Illinois (Continued) Extracted White Clover in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 15-18¢, mostly around 17½-18¢. Section comb few sales fancy White Sweetclover \$6.25 per case.

NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Sept. 13-29)

New York. Extracting of the crop is progressing rapidly in all sections. The crop for the State as a whole will probably run not over 25 percent of normal. In sections of eastern New York yields of 50-75 pounds per colony have been reported. On the other hand, many beekeepers in western New York produced less than 20 pounds of surplus honey per colony. The clover honey flow in western New York was especially light and the buckwheat flow was considerably below normal. Rains during the latter part of September greatly improved soil moisture and plant conditions, but prevented bees from taking full advantage of the goldenrod and aster flows. Most colonies have strong populations of young bees but many are rather light in stores and considerable fall feeding will be necessary in most sections of western New York. Demand for honey has been fairly good, but not as heavy as a year ago. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. White Clover in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. glass 16.9-18¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21-22½¢; Buckwheat in single 60s 15¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 20¢; Amber-Sumac in 5-lb. jars 19¢, in 1-lb. jars 20¢. Section comb- White Clover No. 1, few sales \$6.00 per case.

Vermont. Some rain fell during this period which put clovers in fairly good condition. Bees are in good condition for winter and will require only a normal amount of feeding. The crop is expected to be about 75 percent of that of last year. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. White Clover extracted in 5-lb. glass jars 17¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢. Section comb- White Clover No. 1 \$5.50-6.00 per case.

Connecticut. Heavy rains fell over this area shortly after the middle of September which improved soil conditions but was too late to be of much help to honey plants this fall. Bees are obtaining some nectar from goldenrod but it now seems doubtful if they will obtain more than enough for winter stores.

New Jersey. Bees have obtained considerable winter honey from goldenrod and aster despite the fact that cool weather with considerable rain prevented them from working full time. Both bees and honey plants now appear in fairly good condition. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted Mixed Flowers, in 5-lb. glass jars 20¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 23¢.

Pennsylvania. Recent frosts brought the goldenrod flow to a close in the higher mountain areas. Goldenrod yielded fairly well and most colonies obtained a good supply of winter stores from this source. The buckwheat honey crop has been largely extracted and was considerably below normal as a result of rains during the blooming period. Broodrearing has been fairly active and most colonies were in good condition.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period Sept. 13-29)

Maryland. There were heavy rains and considerable cool weather during this period so that bees have made little progress on the fall flow. Goldenrod and aster have a normal bloom, but most colonies have been able to store little surplus to date. While most colonies are in fairly strong condition it now appears that many will go into winter light in stores unless they are fed.

West Virginia. Aster bloom has been fairly abundant but bees have been unable to work it much of the time because of cold weather.

Virginia. All flows were light during the latter half of September. In the Tidewater section the fall honey flow was about a month late in getting started and from present indications bees will gather barely enough for winter stores. In the mountain sections many colonies are extremely light in stores. In the mountain sections many colonies are extremely light in stores and a little feeding has already been necessary. Recent rains have put plants in all sections in generally good condition. Demand for honey has held up very well. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., bulk comb, in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢ per lb.

South Carolina. Bees are gathering large amounts of pollen from goldenrod and crownbeard, but are storing very little surplus honey. Broodrearing is holding up very well. Indications point to a crop for the State as a whole somewhat heavier than that of last year.



SOUTH CENTRAL SECTIONS: (Period Sept. 13-29)

Kentucky. In north central Kentucky bees are working well on goldenrod and aster. In southwestern Kentucky the best fall crop in a good many years is being gathered from Spanish needle, aster, goldenrod and other fall flowers. In all sections most colonies now have large clusters of bees but broodrearing is tapering off. No sales of honey were reported, but beeswax moved at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Tennessee. Bees are now gathering honey for winter stores from goldenrod, aster, and various other wild flowers. However, many colonies likely will not make winter stores and much sugar feeding may be necessary. The crop for the season as a whole was lighter than average but of good quality, being from white clover, crimson clover, aster, tulip tree, locust and sourwood. Moisture conditions are now very favorable for the planting of Korean lespedeza and crimson clover. A large proportion of the honey crop has already been marketed.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Sept. 12-28)

Georgia. Frequent showers during much of September seriously interfered with the gathering of any fall honey especially in south Georgia. However, fall honey plants are in good condition and if October should be reasonably warm and clear some additional honey for winter stores might be gathered. In north Georgia a total crop close to normal has been gathered. In central Georgia sufficient honey has been gathered to provide winter stores in most yards. In south Georgia, on the other hand, little summer or fall honey has been gathered with the result that many colonies are extremely weak and heavy feeding will be necessary. The spring crop in this section was above normal but the crop as a whole will be considerably below average. Since most of the bees maintained for package production in Georgia are in the southern part of the State, it is expected that package production next spring may be greatly reduced. Many colonies in this section are now being united to prevent starvation. Most of the early honey has been sold. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted-Mixed Flowers in 5-lb. glass jars 17¢.

Florida. Except for a little pollen and nectar to provide current food requirements nothing is being gathered in Florida at this time. In the vicinity of Lake Okeechobee heavy rains have flooded some fairly large areas of bee pasture. On the west coast it is still very dry although occasional light showers are keeping plants alive. Bees are in only fair condition and unless some additional fall honey is obtained considerable feeding may have to be done. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted - Cabbage-Palmetto in barrels 11½¢.

Alabama. Some fall honey is now coming in but in most sections little more than enough to meet current needs. Most colonies are breeding heavily at the expense of winter stores.

Louisiana. In southern Louisiana scale colonies have continued to lose weight. Partridge pea is through blooming but boneset, crownbeard, ragweed, smartweed, and other fall plants are furnishing some pollen and a little nectar. Goldenrod was just beginning to bloom at the end of the month but will not secrete much nectar until around the 10th to 15th of October. Broodrearing has again been stimulated and most colonies are in fair to good condition. In Northern Louisiana good soaking rains brought on a short but heavy fall flow. As a result most colonies are in very good condition and no feeding will be necessary. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, Mixed Flowers, in single 60s 12½¢ per lb.

SUGAR FOR BEES:

With the season at hand when many beekeepers will have to feed sugar attention is again called to the fact that under Revised Rationing Order No. 3, Amendment 25 effective June 26, 1944, and Amendment 42 effective August 16, any beekeeper may obtain 10 pounds of sugar per colony for feeding bees on filing form R315 with the local OPA price and rationing board. For emergency feeding in order to save bees from starvation additional sugar, not to exceed 15 pounds per colony, may be obtained upon certification of the above form R315 by the county Agricultural Conservation Committee, commonly known as the A.A.A. committee.



TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of September. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals. No supplies on market. No sales reported.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by truck, 7,459 lbs. Ill., 12,000 lbs. Iowa, 8,400 lbs. Mich; no rail receipts reported.

COMB: Supplies light. Demand slow, market about steady. Sales to retailers ILLINOIS, cases White Clover, cellophane-wrapped 24-sections \$8.00-8.50, one dozen sections \$4.50.

EXTRACTED: Supplies light. Demand slow, market about steady. Sales to bakers and other users - IOWA and MICHIGAN, 60-lb. tins White Clover, few sales 15¢ per lb. ILLINOIS, White Clover, cases 1 dozen 2-lb. jars \$5.43 per case; cases 2 dozen 1-lb. jars \$5.50-5.75 per case.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 45-46¢ occasional lot 43½¢ delivered Chicago.

DENVER: Receipts: Colo. extracted approx. 78,000 lbs., comb 275 cases, beeswax 1800 lbs.

EXTRACTED: Demand moderate, market steady at ceiling. Sales to retailers-COLORADO, White to Water White Sweetclover, Alfalfa, Mixed Mountain Flowers, cases 12, 5-lb. tins \$11.61-12.00, glass 12, 2-lb. \$5.43-5.65; 12, 44-oz. \$6.29; 12, 12-oz. \$2.40; case 24, half-lb. \$3.30-3.39.

COMB: Offerings light. Demand good, market steady. Sales to retailers - COLORADO, cases, 24-frame cellophane-wrapped Fancy \$6.75-7.25, Extra Fancy \$7.50-8.00.

BEESWAX: Demand moderate, market steady at ceiling. Dealers paying domestic crude 41½¢ per lb.

DETROIT: Receipts: extracted, 27,000 lbs. Mich., origin not specified 1 car (63,500 lbs.). Demand good, market firm at ceiling prices.

EXTRACTED: Sales by bottlers to wholesalers - MICHIGAN, White and Extra Light Amber, per case, 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 24, 8-oz. jars \$2.77; 60-lb. cans Light Amber to bakers 15¢ per lb. CUBA, Amber in 60-lb. cans 12¢ per lb. Origin not specified, White honey, Flower source unknown, delivered Detroit per case 24, 8-oz. jars \$2.95; 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.40.

KANSAS CITY: Iowa and local truck receipts moderate, market firm.

EXTRACTED: Sales to wholesalers and manufacturers - 60-lb. tins, IOWA and LOCAL, White Clover few 15¢, orders for delivery Hawaiian Mixed Flower Amber 13¢ IOWA, package stock, sales to wholesalers- cases, 6, 5-lb. glass \$5.35-5.40; 12, 2-lb. glass \$5.00-5.06; 24, 1-lb. glass \$5.30-5.40.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, extracted 167, 60-lb. cans Minn. Light Amber; 50, 60-lb. cans White Sweetclover; 50; 60-lb. cans Amber; 225 lbs. beeswax.

EXTRACTED: Supplies moderate. Demand fair, market dull. Sales to wholesale and retail grocers - U. S. No. 1 Blended honey 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$5.72. Sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$6.52.

BEESWAX: Supplies moderate. Demand very good, market steady. Sales f.o.b. beekeepers for Domestic crude, Light Yellow, cash 41½¢; in trade 43½¢.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail, Calif. 340,841 lbs., Origin not specified 62,400 lbs.; by truck N. Y., 235 cans, 62,420 lbs.; Pa., 50,000 lbs. Supplies Domestic light, imported moderate. Demand moderate, market at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales by receivers to retailers - WESTERN, Domestic mostly to bottlers. Little offered outside trade. CALIFORNIA, Light Amber Sage and Light Amber Alfalfa mostly 16¢. NEW YORK and PENNSYLVANIA, Buckwheat 14-14 3/4¢. Imported: Very few sales to jobbers and manufacturers - Sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling price as follows: per lb- Warehoused by dealer in U. S. A.- 12,000 or over 11½¢, less than 12,000 but not less than 1500 lbs. 12½¢, less than 1500 but not less than 300 lbs. 13½¢, less than 300 lbs. 14½¢.

BEESWAX: Supplies light. Demand good, market strong at ceiling. Sales by receivers port of entry- SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢.

- continued -



PHILADELPHIA: Honey and beeswax: no arrivals. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, extracted 10,600 lbs. bottled Midwestern; 100 cartons Iowa. Demand very slow, market dull.

EXTRACTED: Sales by receivers to retailers - IOWA, White Clover cartons of 24, 1-lb. jars \$5.25.

PORTLAND: Receipts: by motor truck, extracted from Oregon 310, 60-lb. cans; from Calif. 304 cases 6, 5-lb. jars; 300, 60-lb. cans; from Idaho comb 600 cases, 24 sections each. Supplies moderate. Demand slow for packaged honey although there is apparently no accumulation.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other large buyers - OREGON, Clover-Vetch and Blends 12, 5-lb. jars \$12.12. IDAHO and CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers 12, 5-lb. cans \$12.60 delivered, cash and carry \$11.60. IDAHO, 24, 16-oz. glass jars \$5.95 delivered and \$5.75 cash and carry. CALIFORNIA, bulk in 60-lb. cans 17¢.

COMB: Supplies moderate. Demand slightly better. Sales to retailers - IDAHO. Fancy 24, 12-oz. \$9.30, Choice 10-oz. \$9.10.

BEE SWAX: There has been no outside demand and supplies have tendency to pile up but dealers continue paying ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash or trade.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts very light. Trading very light. Market firm. Sales by commission merchants and wholesalers to retailers -

EXTRACTED: COLORADO, Alfalfa, Light Amber, cartons 12, 5-lb. jars \$12.59; 12, 2-lb. jars \$6.21; 12, 1-lb. jars \$3.27; 12, ½-lb. jars \$1.88. ILLINOIS, Mixed Flowers Light Amber 60-lb. tins per pound few 14½¢.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND AND ALAMEDA: Receipts: by truck from Northern Calif. - 75 cases Light to Extra Light Amber Alfalfa-Bean; 73 cases White Clover; 243 cases Amber to Light Amber Mixed Flowers; 1,261 cases Extra Light Amber to White Thistle; from Central Calif. - 140 cases Light Amber Alfalfa, 399 cases Light Amber Alfalfa-Bean, 18 cases Light Amber Eucalyptus, 65 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers; from Southern Calif. - 164 cases White Thistle; from Nevada - 1,214 cases White Clover, 270 cases Alfalfa-Clover comb.

SEATTLE: Receipts: Calif. 706 cases of 12, 5-lb. jars; 199, 60-lb. cans; Idaho 695 cases 12, 5-lb. cans. Supplies moderate. Demand good, market firm at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots - WASHINGTON, creamed honey 18, 2½-lb. cups \$13.00; 24, 14-oz. cups \$6.24; 30, 14-oz. cups \$8.05. CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers Light Amber 24, 1-lb. jars \$6.20-6.49; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.80-6.00; 12, 3-lb. jars \$8.40-8.50; 60-lb. cans \$11.50; Orange Light Amber 6, 5-lb. jars \$6.47; 60-lb. cans \$11.19. IDAHO, Alfalfa-Sweetclover, Light Amber 12, 5-lb. jars and cans \$12.00-12.63; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.95.

COMB: No supplies on market.

- over -

October 2, 1944.

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF DISTRIBUTION, WASHINGTON 25, D. C. SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII - No. 19  
EXPORTS OF HONEY FROM THE UNITED STATES DURING CALENDAR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1941. BY COUNTRY OF DESTINATION

(Secured through Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce)

COUNTRY OF DESTINATION	TOTAL	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Switzerland	125,880	-	36,000	-	-	-	-	24,000	-	46,200	19,680	-	139
Canada	108,377	84,000	24,128	-	110	-	-	-	-	-	60,000	-	-
United Kingdom	60,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Finland	36,000	36,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,500	156	3,348	1,505	660
Philippine Islands	31,673	1,497	1,173	1,836	15,679	1,650	581	2,088	-	-	-	-	-
British Indies	28,935	9,913	3,312	7,202	4,222	4,286	-	-	3,700	492	5,661	1,416	3,096
Hong Kong	23,580	608	1,050	1,507	2,692	960	1,243	1,155	-	-	19,422	-	-
Egypt	19,638	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	216	-	712	228	14,000
Peru	16,500	-	72	240	144	116	-	120	436	-	-	-	15,000
Chile	15,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,625
Guatemala	14,625	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	400
Netherlands East Indies	13,590	3,290	587	-	1,768	4,643	960	732	240	-	250	720	900
Panama Canal Zone	7,080	900	600	720	720	-	1,440	-	900	-	900	-	288
Netherlands West Indies	6,390	660	660	600	462	660	360	-	300	780	966	654	708
China	4,642	960	-	232	366	144	360	1,140	480	240	12	-	3,720
Iceland	3,720	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200
British Malaya	3,398	806	990	1,036	-	126	-	-	-	-	240	-	2,200
Colombia	2,320	-	-	-	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	60	420
Siam	1,704	-	240	-	96	120	-	312	-	-	516	-	948
Belgian Congo	1,550	-	-	144	-	-	-	-	-	240	155	-	45
Liberia	1,177	-	-	225	-	232	-	675	-	-	-	-	-
Panama, Republic of	1,050	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	110	168	192	160	60
All Others	3,273	55	-	369	227	693	320	-	-	776	408	360	-
TOTAL	530,102	138,689	68,812	14,111	26,546	13,635	5,684	30,222	7,882	49,484	112,462	5,166	57,409

## EXPORTS OF HONEY FROM THE UNITED STATES DURING CALENDAR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1941, BY CUSTOMS DISTRICTS

(Secured through Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce)

CUSTOMS DISTRICTS	TOTAL	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
New York	282,863	42,910	37,464	2,156	2,532	5,873	2,048	24,675	1,310	48,116	102,653	1,525	11,601
San Francisco	125,472	8,478	6,860	9,933	21,709	5,320	3,456	3,987	6,392	1,188	9,199	3,281	45,669
Michigan	108,000	84,000	24,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Los Angeles	8,798	2,286	-	1,688	1,782	2,442	-	600	-	-	-	-	-
Washington (State)	2,427	960	128	240	180	-	180	960	180	180	360	360	139
Hawaii	1,800	-	360	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	250	-	-
Oregon	250	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Orleans	170	-	-	50	120	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts	113	-	-	-	113	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Buffalo	110	-	-	-	110	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Florida	79	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
St. Lawrence	20	-	-	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	530,102	138,689	68,812	14,111	26,546	13,635	5,684	30,222	7,882	49,484	112,462	5,166	57,409

NOTE: The total exports of honey for the calendar year 1941, 530,102 lbs., compare with a total of 3,363,239 lbs. for the calendar year 1940.



IMPORTS OF HONEY INTO THE UNITED STATES DURING CALENDAR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1941 BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN  
(Secured through Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce)

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	TOTAL Pounds	JANUARY Pounds	FEBRUARY Pounds	MARCH Pounds	APRIL Pounds	MAY Pounds	JUNE Pounds	JULY Pounds	AUGUST Pounds	SEPTEMBER Pounds	OCTOBER Pounds	NOVEMBER Pounds	DECEMBER Pounds
Cuba	3,005,930:	106,916:	97,428:	196,087:	244,562:	380,837:	287,803:	133,429:	363,556:	411,266:	320,377:	198,719:	264,945:
Mexico	153,116:	14,804:	-	1,203:	-	60,000:	-	-	-	-	610:	69,000:	7,500:
Guatemala	73,304:	3,302:	-	19,222:	3,410:	-	2,637:	4,785:	3,500:	3,340:	1,454:	12,023:	20,031:
Salvador	72,482:	-	-	-	-	-	7,734:	365:	-	-	-	-	64,383:
Dominican Republic	14,683:	-	-	-	10:	-	-	6,378:	8,295:	-	-	-	-
Canada	8,127:	1,407:	-	-	48:	778:	236:	20:	292:	1,234:	2,438:	664:	1,010:
Chile	2,316:	-	1,831:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	485:	-
Argentina	2,180:	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,702:	-	-	-	-	-
Greece	2,156:	-	-	-	-	2,156:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Australia	1,176:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,176:	-
United Kingdom	1,032:	-	-	392:	640:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Zealand	120:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	120:	-	-	-
Colombia	60:	-	-	-	-	-	60:	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	3,337,182:	126,529:	99,259:	216,913:	248,660:	443,771:	298,475:	146,679:	375,643:	416,438:	324,879:	282,067:	357,869:

SHIPMENTS OF HONEY FROM PUERTO RICO AND HAWAII TO UNITED STATES FOR CALENDAR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1941

	TOTAL Pounds	JANUARY Pounds	FEBRUARY Pounds	MARCH Pounds	APRIL Pounds	MAY Pounds	JUNE Pounds	JULY Pounds	AUGUST Pounds	SEPTEMBER Pounds	OCTOBER Pounds	NOVEMBER Pounds	DECEMBER Pounds
Hawaii	934,086:	105,765:	30,000:	136,920:	-	135,240:	12,000:	126,410:	50,464:	60,000:	225,970:	24,317:	27,000:
Puerto Rico	872,496:	52,070:	36,543:	68,576:	17,693:	34,029:	11,857:	35,766:	87,745:	141,098:	169,333:	135,090:	84,696:
TOTAL	1,806,582:	157,835:	66,543:	205,496:	17,693:	169,269:	23,857:	162,176:	138,209:	201,098:	395,303:	157,407:	111,696:

NOTE: The total imports from all countries, including Puerto Rico and Hawaii, for the calendar year 1941-5, 143,764 lbs., compare with a total of 2,697,957 for the calendar year 1940.

IMPORTS OF BEESWAX ONLY INTO THE UNITED STATES DURING CALENDAR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1944, BY COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN  
(Secured through Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce)

COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN	TOTAL	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Brazil	1,785,061	112,029	177,354	178,288	253,133	33,023	173,277	113,081	183,323	240,715	109,208	40,628	151,002
Cuba	992,230	95,079	76,358	78,577	32,184	129,279	42,353	77,973	43,128	86,278	119,612	75,661	135,748
Chile	690,409	63,950	4,601	15,543	57,159	-	156,980	135,774	18,519	73,851	74,377	60,808	28,847
Other Portuguese Africa	661,477	127,729	33,069	63,177	-	-	-	122,317	-	129,467	161,339	24,379	-
Dominican Republic	644,781	36,904	65,999	24,999	47,764	42,645	52,980	105,988	52,221	58,281	65,446	24,032	67,522
Other French Africa	413,525	-	-	26,455	-	50,315	-	44,092	-	-	54,768	-	237,895
British East Africa	348,340	-	6,833	1,540	-	-	-	-	46,648	24,971	140,017	90,205	116,577
Mexico	323,843	8,443	3,444	3,444	-	9,899	32,842	50,568	65,700	-	27,618	61,759	50,818
Belgian Congo	273,058	5,639	9,151	13,512	1,175	9,935	10,411	11,229	8,470	33,040	14,502	119,110	16,495
Haiti, Republic of	108,992	-	-	4,448	14,545	-	43,928	6,217	11,000	17,334	16,927	-	15,478
Argentina	103,582	-	-	4,967	-	8,619	9,605	10,275	3,693	2,239	2,743	2,657	3,538
Guatemala	64,940	3,164	5,474	2,587	10,346	-	-	-	-	-	22,809	29,768	-
Other Asia	52,577	-	17,390	-	5,807	3,885	1,740	5,500	4,305	1,365	1,221	1,230	28,234
Peru	43,903	1,460	-	-	-	-	-	4,339	-	-	11,200	-	43,664
Netherlands Indies	43,664	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18,042	-	5,553	-
Portugal	31,273	-	7,678	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,000	-	21,795
Mozambique	28,795	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23,000
Ethiopia	25,436	-	-	196	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,872	-	-
British Indies	24,555	10,648	-	-	-	-	11,035	-	-	-	8,960	-	-
Egypt	17,920	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,929
Saudi Arabia	14,169	-	-	-	-	-	2,240	-	-	-	-	-	-
Burma (British)	11,298	1,049	1,022	507	-	-	-	811	1,186	-	5,690	-	-
Salvador	9,823	1,138	-	-	-	-	1,033	-	8,685	-	-	-	-
Morocco	4,591	-	-	-	-	4,591	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Spanish Africa	4,016	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,200	-	816
Canada	2,773	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,707	1,066	-	-	-
Costa Rica	1,839	1,499	-	-	-	-	-	-	120	-	-	220	-
Other Countries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	6,750,643	468,731	404,929	418,240	422,113	301,151	538,424	701,531	444,445	648,310	881,971	448,330	1,072,468

SHIPMENTS OF BEESWAX FROM PUERTO RICO AND HAWAII TO THE UNITED STATES FOR CALENDAR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1941  
(Secured through Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce)

	TOTAL	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Hawaii	53,580	1,211	815	2,542	-	-	7,639	-	-	-	6,023	2,702	32,648
Puerto Rico	40,483	3,783	2,449	481	2,031	-	1,350	2,683	3,798	7,256	7,941	4,387	4,324
TOTAL	94,063	4,994	3,264	3,023	2,031	-	8,989	2,683	3,798	7,256	13,964	7,089	36,972

NOTE: The total imports of beeswax from all countries, including Puerto Rico and Hawaii, for the calendar year 1941, 6,844,706 lbs. compare with a total of 4,782,921 lbs. for the calendar year 1940.



WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
Office of Distribution

Reserve

Telephone - REpublic 4142,  
Extension 2176.

Washington 25, D. C.  
October 16, 1944.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII - No. 20

SUMMARY

The October honey crop report which was released by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics on October 14 forecasts the crop this year at 185,301,000 pounds, compared with 189,867,000 pounds last year, and 177,833,000 pounds in 1942. The per colony yield of honey this year is about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  pounds under that of last season or 35.5 pounds, compared with 38.9 pounds in 1943. The reduction in yield is largely offset by the 7 percent increase in the number of colonies. Allowances for the expected late summer and fall honey flow is included in this estimate of total production. Final estimates may vary somewhat, depending on how closely the late honey flow was estimated. Yields in the eastern half of the country with the exception of the Lake States and the New England States were generally well above last year. Most of the States in western half of the country reported yields considerably below last year. In mid-September stocks of honey on hand for sale by producers were estimated at 49,724,000 pounds. This represents honey on hand for sale and does not include honey on the hives. The bulk, or roughly 71 percent, of the honey on hand on that date was held in the north central and western States. Details by States are shown on the last page of this report.

Except for the Gulf Coast States honey gathering for this season is largely over. Through the middle belt of States and in the Southwest bees are still obtaining a little honey for current needs and if given a little more warm weather may add to their winter stores. For the country as a whole colonies are in better condition than last year, with generally good clusters and ample brood. In most sections winter stores appear ample, but in some areas where the fall flow was light considerable winter feeding may be necessary. This is especially true of portions of the Lake States. Extracting is progressing rapidly and in most sections will be finished earlier than last year as a result of the lighter yields. Labor shortages are slowing down extracting and fall feeding and packing operations, especially among the larger commercial beekeepers. Over most of the country honey plants appear in very good condition for next season. Except for local areas clover seedlings appear fairly good. It is apparent that the acreage of clover will again be light next year. However, over much of the sweetclover area clover in pastures and waste lands is showing an increase.

Demand from packers and bottlers for the lighter grades of honey has improved recently but dark honey, other than buckwheat, continues to move slowly. Most honey is selling at or very close to the ceiling of 12¢ per pound, f.o.b., in case lots to carlots and 15¢ in single 60s to consumers. Movement of honey to the cooperatives has been fairly heavy during this period.

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period September 22-October 7)

Southern California. Weather has permitted almost daily bee flights during this period. In most sections, however, little nectar has been gathered. In some of the valleys the mustard cover crop is providing some stores and fall weeds are furnishing a little pasturage. In the mountains bees are very quiet and have little brood, while in the valleys they are more active and most colonies have fair quantities of brood. Most colonies are in fairly good condition for winter, but in some of the drier sections some feeding may be necessary. Demand for white honey continues very good, with light offerings. On the other hand, offerings of dark honey by producers have increased and demand is rather slow.



Ceiling prices have been paid freely on lighter grades of honey but purchases of dark honey at the ceiling have been somewhat limited. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted in case to ton lots and in carlots 12¢ regardless of color or flavor. Beeswax offerings increased but prices held at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash and 43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Northern and Central California. Temperatures averaged slightly above normal in the interior valleys and near or slightly below normal along the coast. Light widely scattered showers fell from the Tehachapi Mountains northward, the heaviest occurring in the mountains and in the central Sacramento Valley. A large proportion of the colonies are light in winter stores, with little possibility of obtaining any additional winter stores. The fall flow stopped about a month earlier than usual on account of the very dry summer. In the lower Sacramento Valley many colonies were seriously injured by arsenical dusting of tomato fields. Some colonies are already dead and others will likely die before winter. Demand for honey by bottlers has been fairly good at the ceiling, especially for the lighter grades. Many deliveries are behind schedule because of lack of sufficient trucks and inability of some beekeepers to obtain repairs for their trucks. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted: Northern California Thistle, Alfalfa-Thistle, Clover, and Mixed Flowers, and Central California Blue Curls, Cotton, and Mixed Flowers in case to ton lots 12¢ per lb.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period September 22-October 7)

West of Cascades. Temperatures have been variable during this period, with considerable rainfall. Many colonies especially from the fireweed sections are light in stores and considerable feeding will be necessary. Many have excessive brood with the result that consumption of stores has been heavy. Demand for honey has been fairly good but not nearly as heavy as a year ago. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - Clover, Clover-Vetch, and Fireweed in case to ton lots mostly 12¢ per lb. with some lots reported at 13-14¢; in single 60s to consumers mostly 15¢.

East of Cascades. Weather continues good but bees have obtained little more than pasturage during this period. In the Yakima Valley crop estimates range from 80 to 100 pounds per colony, while in the Walla Walla District the crop will run from 30 to 70 percent of normal. Broodrearing has been heavy with a correspondingly heavy consumption of stores, especially where hives were extracted too closely. The summer honey crop in eastern Washington was of extremely good quality and very light in color, while later in the season a heavy mixture of mint honey in some sections made it dark and rather strong.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period September 24-October 9)

All honey production has ended in the Intermountain Region with the advent of cooler weather. In most sections exception south central Idaho and Utah colonies are in fairly strong condition with ample winter stores. Parts of Colorado and Wyoming are still dry and considerable additional rain will be needed to put honey plants in good condition for next year. Demand for honey has improved and movement has been fairly ample. A number of carlot sales were reported and also a number of cars have moved out of the territory to cooperatives. Apparently less honey will be packed by beekeepers in this section than was the case last year. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - Clover-Alfalfa in carlots 12¢; in case to ton lots mostly 12¢, few higher; in single 60s mostly 15¢; some Amber Clover-Alfalfa in case to ton lots low as 10½¢. Beeswax 41½¢ cash, and 43-43½¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers. Details by States follow-

Colorado. Bees are in good condition with ample stores for winter in most cases, although in some colonies broodrearing was heavy late in the season and consumption of stores heavy. Over much of the State the weather has been unusually dry since early September with the result that honey plants for next season are in poor condition. In the Delta section fairly good rains fell toward the close of the period with the result that plant conditions are somewhat improved.

Wyoming. Most of the honey crop in this State has been extracted and bees are being prepared for winter. Most colonies are in good condition, although some feeding has been necessary. Broodrearing has been fairly heavy due to warm weather, with the result that consumption of stores has been heavy which may create a shortage of food stores later on. Moisture conditions have improved somewhat after the very long dry period, but in many sections of the State plants for next year are in poor condition.

- continued -



Montana. Freezing temperatures during this period discontinued all honey flows. Weather has been favorable for fall work. Soil moisture conditions are generally good, and in most sections bees are in good condition with ample stores and good clusters.

Idaho. Extracting is practically completed and the crop for the State as a whole is running very short. In the eastern and western portions of the Snake River Valley the crop may average around 40-50 pounds per colony, but in a large area of south central Idaho the crop was extremely light, in many cases being a near failure. In some locations insufficient honey was stored to provide winter stores. Broodrearing has about ended and colonies will go into winter quarters with fairly good clusters.

Utah. In irrigated sections of north eastern Utah bees did fairly well on third crop alfalfa, with many colonies producing around 60 pounds. For the State as a whole, however, production for the season was extremely light largely due to the loss of many bees from poisoning and foulbrood. Many colonies are extremely light and in poor condition for winter.

Nevada. Fall rains have started and bees and honey plants are going into winter in good condition. Yields have been rather spotted but have averaged considerably better than last year. Some good commercial beekeepers will extract from 80 to 120 pounds per colony while many others will harvest only around 40 pounds or less. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - Alfalfa-Clover in case to ton lots 12¢. Section comb- Alfalfa-Clover \$5.00-6.00 per case

ARIZONA: (Period September 24-October 9)

Drought conditions continue over most of southern Arizona. Bees are storing some pollen from Bermuda grass and other late weeds. Tamarisk produced very little surplus although it did yield considerable pollen. It has been too dry for goldenrod and most desert bloom. Some bees on the desert are rather weak and will need considerable fall feeding. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - Mesquite in single 60s 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢, in small pails 18¢.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period September 26-October 11)

Northeast and East Texas. In Northeast Texas weather conditions are very favorable and a fairly good flow is now on from cotton, asters, and broom weed. Bees are in good condition for winter. Indications are that the demand for package bees will again be much larger than the supply. Some beekeepers are already booked with all the orders for queens and packages they can supply until the end of May. Retail demand for honey has been rather light but prices are still holding close to ceiling.

Southeast Texas. Good rains during the first ten days of October revived fall honey plants so that an abundance of pollen and some nectar is now available. Goldenrod and asters have just started to bloom, but plants are very sparse as a result of the long dry summer. The next thirty days will determine whether bees in this section will secure enough stores for winter. Many colonies are still very light although they have good clusters.

Southwest Texas. Good fall rains in most sections have put plants in good condition both for this fall and next spring. Broomweed is blooming heavily in most sections and producing considerable nectar and pollen. If frost holds off for another three or four weeks prospects are fairly good for some surplus honey from broomweed.

New Mexico. In the Mesilla Valley bees produced about a fourth of a crop of dark honey which is selling slowly. Considerable old crop honey and also dark Mexican honey is still to be found on retailers' shelves. In the middle Rio Grande Valley extracting is well under way with the crop considerably below expectations. Honey is in fair demand in this section at ceiling prices. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - Alfalfa in 5-lb. glass jars 17-19 1/2¢ in 1-pt. jars 28-29¢.

Arkansas. The late summer and fall yield of honey was fairly good over most of Arkansas. Bees are in fine condition for winter and many colonies have ample stores. Demand for package bees for 1945 has been heavy.

PLAINS AREA: (Period September 26-October 11)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. The nectar flows have been over for some time in the Red River Valley but the first killing frosts in the vicinity of Fargo occurred around October 8. Most beekeepers are now packing their bees for outdoor wintering. Many colonies will be too light in stores for safe wintering unless fed heavily this fall. Sweetclover seedlings appear in normal condition for this time of year. A large percentage of the honey so far extracted has already been sold. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted Sweetclover in carlots and case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s to consumers 15¢.

Iowa. Most supers have been taken from the bee yards in Iowa and extracting is progressing rapidly. Packing for winter will begin within the next week or two. Yields have been rather spotted in some sections, running from 75 to 100 pounds per colony, while other sections have run only 25 to 50 pounds per colony. Most colonies are in good condition for winter with good clusters and fairly plentiful winter stores. Movement of honey to packers has been fairly good but retail demand has been rather light, largely due to the fact that many retailers still have fairly large stocks of old crop on hand. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted Sweetclover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢.

Nebraska. In eastern Nebraska bees are in good condition for winter with most colonies having plenty of winter stores. In this section sweetclover plants are in excellent condition and soil moisture is generally ample. In western Nebraska the ground is dry and young clover plants are suffering. Average yields in eastern Nebraska are equal to or better than last year while in the western part of the State they are slightly below last season. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, Sweetclover in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, some bottled by beekeepers on basis of 12¢ ceiling plus 5¢ per lb. for processing and bottling.

Kansas. Heavy rains over much of central and eastern Kansas have put soil and plants in good condition. Bees are being packed for winter. Most colonies have strong populations but some are a little light in winter stores, largely as a result of late heavy broodrearing.

Missouri. Most of this period was cloudy and rainy so bees could gather little or no honey. The fall flow in eastern and central Missouri has been disappointing although most strong colonies obtained sufficient honey for winter stores and are in fairly good condition. Frosts on nights of October 10 and 11 will likely end any honey flows. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, White Clover in case to ton lots 12¢; Clover and Goldenrod, Amber, in case to ton lots 12¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 16¢; some dark thin honey in case lots low as 9¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period September 28-October 12)

Michigan. On the upper peninsula extracting has been largely completed and bees are ready to be moved into the cellars for winter. Most colonies are strong. Some smaller swarms have been united to obtain greater strength. On the lower peninsula abnormally cool, wet weather since early September has prevented bees from storing much fall honey, although in some sections bees were able to fill their brood nests with honey but stored little or no surplus. It looks like about 30 percent of the colonies in the southern portion of the State will need heavy feeding. The crop has been largely extracted and a large proportion of the white honey has already moved to market at ceiling prices. Some Amber mixed flowers and buckwheat honey remains in beekeepers' hands. Clover seedlings are in fairly good condition but it looks like the acreage of clover for next year will again be below normal. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., White Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s to consumers 15¢.

Wisconsin. The cool, wet fall has prevented bees from storing much fall honey but has put plants in unusually good condition for next spring. A large percentage of the colonies have large clusters of young bees and fairly good winter stores. On the other hand, in some sections many colonies are light with light stores, so that heavy feeding will be necessary to carry them through the winter. Some beekeepers have gassed weak colonies with the idea of replacing them next spring. Others have united colonies for better wintering. Some large commercial beekeepers have experienced difficulty in obtaining sugar due to temporary or local shortages. Demand for honey has been fairly good from packers, but retail demand has been rather light in many cases. Sales f.o.b. shipping



point, per lb. Clover in case to ton lots 12¢, with some at 11½¢ with cans returned, in single 60s to consumers 15¢; in 5-lb. glass jars 16 4/5¢; Basswood-Clover in 5-lb. glass jars 17¢.

Minnesota. Light showers fell during this period and cool weather kept bees confined most of the time. Killing frosts occurred on October 9 and 10 in southern Minnesota which ended all honey flows. Most supers have been removed from the hives. The fall crop was very light and the average for the State as a whole was considerably below that of last season. Despite this, colony strength is better and winter stores more plentiful than a year ago. On the other hand, many colonies including a fairly good percentage of packages did not make winter stores and considerable feeding will be done before packing. Clover plants are in good condition. Planted acreage of sweetclover will again be light next year but there seems to be some increase in sweetclover on roadsides and waste land. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted - Clover in case to ton lots 12¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 18-20¢; Buckwheat in case to ton lots 12¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 19¢.

Ohio. Fall flowers have bloomed profusely and provided considerable fall honey for winter stores until early October. Asters are still in full bloom and with some additional warm weather a little more honey may be gathered. Clover plants in most sections are in fair condition although in some areas the long dry summer reduced stands considerably. Due to the fairly good fall honey crop winter feeding will not be a serious factor in most areas although in some sections many colonies will require some fall feeding. Demand for light honey has been fairly good, but darker grades have moved rather slowly. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted Clover and Buckwheat in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s to consumers 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars Buckwheat 20¢. Section comb - Dark Buckwheat No. 1, \$5.00 per case.

Indiana. Unseasonably warm weather prevailed during the early part of this period followed by rain and cool, cloudy weather with some frost. Goldenrod and asters yielded well and in low areas considerable surplus honey was obtained from these sources. In most sections bees have sufficient honey for winter stores and most colonies are in good strength. Honey sales have been largely to consumers in 60-lb. cans and in 5-lb. glass jars. Difficulty in obtaining sugar for canning may be responsible for some of this increased demand. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted White Clover in single 60s to consumers 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 18-19¢, few 20¢.

Illinois. The first killing frosts in Illinois occurred between October 10 and 15. In southern Illinois a fairly good crop of Spanish needle honey was gathered during September. Heartsease, goldenrod and asters bloomed heavily, but cool, cloudy weather during late September and early October prevented bees from taking full advantage of this bloom. The crop in Illinois was very spotted with beekeepers in some sections producing little more than winter stores while those other sections reported surpluses ranging from 50 to 100 pounds per colony with an occasional unusually strong colony running heavier. Demand for honey has been fairly good, with a number of beekeepers moving fairly large quantities directly to consumers mostly in 5-lb. glass jars. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. Clover and Mixed Flowers in case to ton lots mostly 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 18-20¢, with some dark honey as low as 15-16¢, 1-lb. glass jars 20¢. Section comb honey is very light and the only sale reported was at 35¢ per 1-lb. section.

#### NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period September 29-October 13)

New York. In some sections bees are still obtaining a little honey to supplement winter stores from aster and late weeds. In other sections of the State cool weather and frost have stopped all honey flows. With the very light crop which was produced this year a very high percentage of the colonies will have to be fed. Some colonies are rather weak but many have fairly good clusters and considerable brood. Extracting is progressing rapidly and many beekeepers are beginning to prepare their bees for winter. Demand for honey has been only fair, although bottlers have shown considerable interest in the lighter grades of honey. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted White Clover in carlots and in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s to consumers mostly 15¢, some low as 12¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 17-18¢, in 1 and 2-lb. glass jars 21-22¢; Buckwheat in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 17-18¢, in 2-lb. glass jars 21-22¢; Sumac-Basswood in 5-lb. glass jars 19¢,

- over -



in 1-lb. glass jars 20¢. Section comb honey Clover Fancy \$8.00 per case, ordinary quality \$4.80 per case; Buckwheat Fancy \$7.50 per case.

Vermont. Considerable rain has fallen during this period which will be very helpful in putting plants in good condition. Taken as a whole bees will go into winter in good condition. Demand for honey continues good. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted Clover in 5-lb. glass jars 17¢, in 1-lb glass jars 21¢.

Connecticut. The fall crop of honey was almost a failure in Connecticut. Since there was a very light flow in August the supply of honey in hives is now very light. Fully 50 percent of the colonies must be fed this fall.

New Jersey. Weather has been rather cool much of the time but bees have obtained some winter stores from asters during this period.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period September 29-October 13)

Maryland. Rainy, cool weather prevailed during much of this period. Bees have been unable to work fall flowers much of the time with the result that they have gained little honey for winter stores recently. Many colonies are light in stores and some feeding will be required.

West Virginia. In the mountain sections rainy, cool weather kept bees confined much of the time. However, during late September and early October they were able to fill their food chambers fairly well with aster honey.

Virginia. Bees were unable to gain sufficient honey during this period to take care of their daily needs. Many colonies are very light in stores and some starvation has already been reported.

South Carolina. Many colonies are rather light in stores as a result of the long dry period at the end of the summer. In some sections a little surplus is coming in from Mexican clover and asters seem to be producing fairly well. Goldenrod is still blooming, but has produced very little surplus.

SOUTH CENTRAL SECTION: (Period September 28-October 12)

Kentucky. Goldenrod and asters have bloomed heavier than normal this fall in north central Kentucky, but rain and cool weather during much of this period prevented them from taking full advantage of this flow. Most colonies are well supplied for winter with both honey and pollen. Most have strong clusters. Honey has practically all been moved out of beekeepers' hands in this section. Beeswax sold at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash and 43½¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Tennessee. Asters and other fall flowers are abundant and it now appears that most colonies will collect sufficient fall honey for winter stores. Cool weather recently has slowed down the flow, but more warm weather can be expected before winter sets in. Some late swarms and colonies that failed to keep up strength during the long summer drought will have to be fed.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period September 28-October 12)

Florida. A fairly good flow from fall flowers has started in southern Florida. Some sections are excessively dry and rain is badly needed. Most colonies are in fairly good condition and while some are light in stores it is expected that sufficient fall honey will be gathered to carry them through the winter in good shape.

Alabama. During this period colonies made good gains from Mexican clover, goldenrod and crotalaria. Most colonies are in fairly good condition but some will have to be fed through the winter. The late summer and early fall flow produced very little and it was necessary to feed many weak colonies until recently.

Louisiana. In some sections of southern Louisiana weather conditions have been favorable for the goldenrod flow which is now at its peak. In other sections colonies have just about maintained their weight as a result of cool, windy weather. It is expected that with some additional favorable weather most yards will have sufficient winter stores to carry them through. In northern Louisiana cool weather has put a stop to the fall flow, which though short was very intense compared with a normal fall flow. Some hives have made very substantial gains and most should winter well. Pollen is coming in from goldenrod and partridge pea. In this section spring honey plants were somewhat stunted by the late summer drought. Less re-queening has been done in northern Louisiana than usual because of the difficulty of obtaining queens when wanted.



TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of October. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-sections cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: Arrivals: 1 car of 1800 cases extracted Ohio. All sales on brokerage f.o.b. basis. Spot market- No supplies on market, no sales reported.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by rail, l.c.l. 1200 lbs. Fla.; by truck 600 lbs. Wis.

COMB: No supplies on market.

EXTRACTED: Supplies light. Demand slow, market steady. Sales to bakers and other users - WISCONSIN, White Clover, 2 dozen, 1-lb. jars few \$5.75 per case. GUATEMALA, 60-LB. tins Mixed Flowers few 14 3/4¢ per lb.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 45-46¢, occasional lot 43 1/2¢ delivered Chicago, few dealers reported paying 41 1/2-43 1/2¢ per lb. f.o.b. shipping point.

DENVER: Receipts: Colo., approximately 96,000 lbs. extracted; 60 cases comb; 800 lb. beeswax. Demand extracted fairly good, market steady at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers - COLORADO, White to Water White Sweetclover, Alfalfa, Mixed Mountain Flowers, cases 12, 5-lb. tins \$11.61-12.00, glass 12, 2-lb. \$5.43-5.65; 12, 44-oz. \$6.29; 12, 12-oz. \$2.40; case 24, half-lb. \$3.30-3.39.

COMB: Offerings light. Demand good, market steady. Sales to retailers - COLORADO, cases, 24-frame cellophane-wrapped Fancy \$6.75-7.25, Extra Fancy \$7.50-\$8.00.

BEESWAX: Demand moderate, market steady at ceiling. Dealers paying domestic crude 41 1/2¢ per lb.

DETROIT: Receipts: extracted 28,064 lbs. Mich.; 20,000 lbs. Ohio, 43 cases Mich. comb. Supplies moderate. Demand fairly good, market firm at ceiling prices.

EXTRACTED: Sales by bottlers to wholesalers - MICHIGAN, Clover White and Extr. light Amber per case, 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 24 8-oz. jars \$2.77. OHIO, White per case 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04 f.o.b. basis.

KANSAS CITY: Truck receipts <sup>from</sup> Texas moderate; Kansas, Missouri and Iowa liberal.

EXTRACTED: Bulk market slightly stronger; package market slightly weaker. Sales to manufacturers and wholesalers - 60-lb. tins, IOWA and KANSAS, Clover and Alfalfa, Light Amber 15 1/2¢. TEXAS, Mesquite and Alfalfa Amber 15 1/4¢. CALIFORNIA, Clover and Alfalfa, Light Amber 15.1¢. For future delivery- HAWAIIAN, Mixed Flowers Dark Amber 14¢. MEXICO, Mixed Flowers Dark Amber 14¢. Package honey to wholesalers - IOWA and KANSAS, Clover, White and very Light, cases, 6, 5-lb. glass \$5.40; 12, 2-lb. glass \$4.90-5.00; 24, 1-lb. glass \$5.00-5.25.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck extracted 270, 60-lb. cans Minn. White Sweetclover 150 lbs. beeswax. Supplies moderate. Demand fair, market dull.

EXTRACTED: Sales to wholesale grocers- U. S. No. 1 Blended honey 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 12, 2 1/2-lb. jars \$5.72; sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 2 1/2-lb. jars \$6.52.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail, Calif. 68,203 lbs., Origin not specified 1 car; beeswax Origin not specified 48 bags. Supplies domestic light, imported moderate; demand moderate, market at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales by receivers to retailers- WESTERN, Domestic, mostly to bottlers. Little offered outside trade. CALIFORNIA, Light Amber Sage and Light Amber Alfalfa mostly 16¢. NEW YORK and PENNSYLVANIA, Buckwheat 14-14 3/4¢.

IMPORTED: Very few sales to jobbers and manufacturers - Sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling price as follows: per lb. - Warehoused by dealer in U. S. A. 12,000 lbs. or over 11 1/2¢, less than 12,000 but not less than 1500 lbs. 12 1/2¢, less than 1500 but not less than 300 lbs. 13 1/2¢, less than 300 lbs. 14 1/2¢.

BEESWAX: Supplies light. Demand good, market strong at ceiling. Sales by receivers port of entry- SOUTH AMERICA and WEST INDIES, sun -bleachable 44 3/4¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by rail, 130,000 lbs. Iowa. Demand moderate, market at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: IOWA, White Clover, 1 dozen 2-lb. jars \$4.76; 2 dozen, 1-lb. jars \$5.04 f.o.b. shipping point to jobbers and chains.

BEE SWAX: None.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, extracted 3,132 lbs. bottled Mid-Western, 6,400 lbs. Mich., 600 lbs. Ohio. Demand slow, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Brokers' sales to wholesalers - MICHIGAN, White Clover, cartons 2 dozen, 1-lb. jars \$5.04; 1 dozen 3-lb. jars \$6.85. OHIO, White Clover cartons 1 dozen, 2-lb. jars \$4.76.

PORTLAND: Receipts: from Idaho 100 cases comb; from Oregon 168, 60-lb. cans; from Calif. 500 cases 12, 5-lb. jars. Supplies moderate. Demand slow, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other large buyers - OREGON, Clover - Vetch and Blends 12, 5-lb. jars \$12.12. IDAHO and CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers 12, 5-lb. cans \$12.60 delivered, cash and carry \$11.60. IDAHO, 24, 16-oz. glass jars \$5.95 delivered and \$5.75 cash and carry. CALIFORNIA, bulk in 60-lb. cans 17¢.

COMB: Sales to retailers - IDAHO, Fancy 24, 12-oz. \$9.25-9.30; Choice 10-oz. \$9.00-9.10.

BEE SWAX: There has been no outside demand and supplies have tendency to pile up but dealers continue paying ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash or trade.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts very light. Trading very light. Market firm. Sales by commission merchants and wholesalers to retailers -

EXTRACTED: COLORADO, Alfalfa, Light Amber, cartons 12, 5-lb. jars \$12.59; 12, 2-lb. jars \$6.21; 12, 1-lb. jars \$3.27; 12, ½-lb. jars \$1.88. ILLINOIS, Mixed Flowers Light Amber 60-lb. tins per pound few 14½¢.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND AND ALAMEDA: Receipts: by truck, from Northern California - 954 cases Extra Light Amber to White Thistle, 504 cases Light Amber Alfalfa-Thistle; 38 cases Amber Mixed Flowers; from Central California - 418 cases Extra Light Amber Blue Curls, 80 cases Extra Light Amber Cotton, 55 cases Amber to Light Amber Mixed Flowers; from Southern California - 75 cases Light Amber Buckwheat, 75 cases White Sage; from Nevada - 872 cases Extra Light Amber to White Clover, 562 cases Clover comb.

SEATTLE: Receipts: Calif., 646 cases 12, 5-lb. jars; Idaho, 500 cases 12, 5-lb. jars and 165, 60-lb. cans. Supplies moderate. Demand slow, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots - WASHINGTON, creamed honey 18, 2½-lb. cups \$13.00; 24, 14-oz. cups \$6.24; 30, 14-oz. cups \$8.05. CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers Light Amber 24, 1-lb. jars \$6.20-6.49; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.80-6.00; 12, 3-lb. jars \$8.40-8.50; 60-lb. cans \$11.50; Orange Light Amber 6, 5-lb. jars \$6.47; 60-lb. cans \$11.19. IDAHO, Alfalfa-Sweetclover Light Amber 12, 5-lb. jars and cans \$12.00-12.63; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.95.

COMB: Sales to retailers - IDAHO and OREGON, 24, 12-oz. Fancy \$9.00-9.75; No. 1, \$8.75; Choice \$8.00-8.50.

#### CANADIAN HONEY STORAGE

Following are honey storage holdings in pounds as of October 2, 1944, together with comparative figures for 1943: (reported by Dominion Dept. of Agriculture)

	CONSUMER		BULK	
	CONTAINERS		CONTAINERS	
	1943	1944	1943	1944
Saint John . . . . .	3,500	--	--	--
Montreal . . . . .	29,270	67,276	500	7,000
Ottawa . . . . .	9,840	--	--	--
Toronto . . . . .	110,000	188,344	1,268,861	1,743,875
Winnipeg . . . . .	140,154	254,944	371,934	975,016
Edmonton . . . . .	2,338	--	13,740	--
Lethbridge . . . . .	--	1,584	--	--
Calgary . . . . .	--	114,456	--	233,027
Vancouver . . . . .	8,346	118,192	103,530	1,690

- continued -



ESTIMATED HONEY PRODUCTION IN 1944 AND HONEY ON HAND SEPTEMBER 15 FOR SALE  
(Preliminary for 1944, Based on Producers' Reports of September 15)

State and Div.	Colonies of bees		Yield per colony		Production of honey entire season		Honey for sale in producer's hand on September 15, 1944
	1943	1/ 1944	1943	1/ 1944	1943	1/ 1944	
	Thousands		Pounds		Thousand pounds		Thousand pounds
Me.	6	7	20	14	120	98	34
N.H.	3	3	35	18	105	54	26
Vt.	8	8	43	40	344	320	192
Mass.	17	18	26	14	442	252	58
R.I.	1	1	30	27	30	27	3
Conn.	18	20	30	22	540	440	163
N.Y.	199	209	65	45	12,935	9,405	2,634
N.J.	26	27	30	22	780	594	356
Pa.	184	191	34	32	6,256	6,112	1,834
N. Atl.	462	484	46.6	35.7	21,552	17,302	5,300
Ohio	298	310	27	34	8,043	10,540	1,792
Ind.	154	159	32	30	4,928	4,770	1,336
Ill.	191	191	23	29	4,393	5,539	1,606
Mich.	172	198	50	32	8,600	6,336	2,344
Wis.	187	200	57	40	10,659	8,000	3,280
E.H.Cent.	1,002	1,056	36.6	33.3	36,626	35,185	10,358
Minn.	252	267	61	53	15,372	14,151	6,085
Iowa	200	208	47	61	9,400	12,688	2,918
Mo.	160	157	16	20	2,560	3,140	502
N.Dak.	21	22	65	45	1,365	990	396
S.Dak.	18	18	85	75	1,530	1,350	203
Nebr.	49	51	80	30	3,920	4,080	653
Kans.	44	44	38	40	1,672	1,760	422
W.N.Cent.	744	767	48.1	49.8	35,819	38,159	11,179
Del.	3	3	16	24	48	72	16
Md.	24	24	15	18	360	432	173
Va.	119	139	16	27	1,904	3,753	788
W. Va.	95	114	14	19	1,330	2,166	347
N.C.	165	177	20	30	3,300	5,310	690
S.C.	52	60	16	17	832	1,020	173
Ga.	173	199	16	25	2,768	4,975	497
Fla.	162	178	53	58	8,586	10,324	3,407
S. Atl.	793	894	24.1	31.4	19,128	28,052	6,091
Ky.	153	168	10	16	1,530	2,638	134
Tenn.	155	170	15	18	2,325	3,060	306
Ala.	134	168	12	16	1,608	2,688	296
Miss.	60	66	12	16	720	1,056	296
Ark.	70	71	12	21	840	1,491	179
La.	62	68	30	23	1,860	1,564	563
Okla.	43	47	30	23	1,290	1,081	346
Texas	204	212	32	29	6,528	6,148	1,045
S.Cent.	881	970	19.0	20.4	16,701	19,776	3,165
Mont.	39	44	102	91	3,978	4,004	1,481
Idaho	135	140	55	27	7,425	3,730	1,739
Wyo.	35	37	75	104	2,625	3,848	1,231
Colo.	69	71	90	84	6,210	5,964	2,445
N. Mex.	17	19	45	52	765	938	474
Ariz.	79	77	63	67	4,977	5,159	516
Utah	52	52	38	28	1,976	1,456	903
Nev.	14	14	30	55	420	770	462
Wash.	60	63	26	40	1,560	2,520	958
Oreg.	57	59	33	32	1,881	1,828	954
Calif.	448	470	63	35	28,224	16,450	2,468
West.	1,005	1,046	59.7	44.8	60,041	46,827	13,631
U. S.	4,887	5,213	38.9	35.5	189,867	185,301	49,724

1/ Revised. (By Bureau of Agricultural Economics)

LIBRARY  
CURRENT SERIALS  
★ NOV 1 - 1944  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



Telephone - REpublic 4142,  
Extension 2176.

Washington 25, D. C.  
November 1, 1944.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII - No. 21

SUMMARY

Practically all sections of the country have enjoyed a long mild fall. Some sections through the north central States and middlewest have been rather dry but drought conditions have not seriously affected the plants for next season over any large section of the country. In practically all sections bees are in better condition than at this time during the two previous seasons. Colony populations are generally good and in most sections winter stores are ample. In the Lake area and portions of the Great Plains area some colonies are weak and considerable fall and winter feeding will be necessary. In some sections beekeepers have experienced difficulty in obtaining sufficient sugar to carry on normal fall feeding operations. This has been due to an overall shortage of sugar in dealers' hands rather than inability of beekeepers to obtain the rationing permit to obtain the sugar. Extracting has been largely completed in most sections and fall packing and feeding operations are proceeding satisfactorily. Labor shortages, however, have slowed down or retarded these operations among many of the larger commercial beekeepers. It is expected that labor shortage may be a serious factor in obtaining capacity production of package bees and queens in the southern package producing areas next spring.

Demand for honey has shown considerable improvement, especially from the large packers and bottlers. In some sections bottlers have been unable to obtain sufficient supplies for a full season's operations with the result that many are already rationing honey sales especially of the lighter grades. In the Southeast a heavy cane crop is in prospect with the result that fairly liberal supplies of cane sirup may be available this winter. Some retailers and jobbers also have fairly liberal quantities of dark imported honey which was carried over from last season. Practically all sales have been reported at ceiling levels regardless of flavor or color.

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period October 7-23)

Southern California. Most of southern California is experiencing one of the driest falls in a good many years. Practically all honey plants in the hill areas have dried up. Bees are obtaining a little nectar from mustard in the valleys and also from some species of eucalyptus and avocados. Along the coast a little sweetclover is available. In the valleys bees are in generally good condition and most have fair quantities of stores. In the hill areas some colonies <sup>are</sup> rather weak and many are short of stores. Most colonies are now dormant. In San Diego County it is reported that the Forest Service will plant a fairly large acreage of burned over land to wild mustard. This may add somewhat to the available bee pasturage available in that section next year. Demand for light grades of honey has been good with the available offerings quite closely cleaned up. On the other hand some dealers are not buying large quantities of the darker grades. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted Orange, Alfalfa, Buckwheat, Buckwheat-Sage, and Mixed Flowers 12¢ per lb. Beeswax 41<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢ per lb. cash and 43<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Imperial Valley. Bees are still raising some brood and will go into winter quarters with good clusters of young bees and ample supplies of honey and pollen. Honey plants are now dormant and about all that is available for bees is pollen from corn.



Central and Northern California. There were a few light scattered showers over these sections during the latter half of October. Temperatures were generally near normal. Most honey plants are now dormant so that all that is available for bees is a little pollen from miscellaneous weeds and some oak honeydew. In the lower Sacramento Valley bee losses from arsenical poisoning have been fairly heavy and many colonies have been weakened. For this section as a whole a large percentage of the colonies have rather light clusters with few young bees and are short of stores so that considerable feeding may be necessary. On the other hand, in some localities colonies are fairly strong and have sufficient stores for normal wintering. The crop of honey was far below normal. Demand for honey continues very good, with most bottlers anxious to purchase regardless of flavor or color. Apparently little honey remains in beekeepers' hands. Retail demand has improved greatly and some bottlers are already cutting down orders especially on lighter honey. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted - Northern California Thistle, Thistle Mixture, Snow Brush and Mixed Flowers; Central California Buckwheat, Cotton, Orange, Sage, Sage-Lima Bean, Thistle Cotton, Thistle-Cotton-Blue Curls-Spikeweed, and Jackass Clover in case to ton lots 12¢.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period October 7-23)

West of Cascades. Temperatures during most of this period were above normal running as high as 80° in southern Oregon. Light rains fell at the close of the period, so that plants are in fairly good condition. Bees are in generally good condition and most colonies have fairly ample stores, although considerable feeding will be necessary in some sections. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted Clover and Clover-Vetch in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s to consumers 15¢; section comb Clover-Vetch \$7.00-8.00 per case of 24 sections, depending on quality.

East of Cascades. Temperatures were above normal during this period with practically no rainfall. Some sections are becoming very dry and moisture is needed. Colonies are in good condition for winter. Bees have been working a little on fall aster, rabbit brush, and other late flowers, and while they have not gathered sufficient honey to meet their current needs, they have stored considerable pollen and loss of weight has been lighter than normal. Practically all colonies are in very good condition with ample winter stores. Demand for honey has been very good. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted - Clover-Alfalfa in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s to consumers 15¢, in 3-lb. glass jars 20¢.

INTERMOUNTAIN REGION: (Period October 9-24)

Mild fall weather has prevailed over the Intermountain Region, with only light frosts in the southern part of the area and no heavy freezes in any section as yet. Most of the region is badly in need of rainfall before the ground freezes and in some sections plants for next year have shown some injury. Extracting is largely completed and colonies are rapidly being prepared for winter. Except for Utah and portions of Idaho colonies are in good condition for winter with ample stores in most yards, although in some localities some fall and winter feeding may be necessary. Demand for honey has been good although it is still not as heavy as at this season last year. Considerable honey has moved during recent weeks to cooperatives. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. Clover-Alfalfa in carlots 12¢; in case to ton lots mostly 12¢, a few high as 14¢; in single 60s to consumers 15¢; in 5-lb. glass jars 18½¢-19¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 20-21¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb. cash and 43½¢ per lb. in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers. Details by States follow:

Colorado. Weather over practically all of Colorado has been mild for this season with only light frosts. It is still dry in all sections and unless some additional rain falls before winter, plants for next year may be somewhat damaged. Extracting is practically completed in all sections. While yields were not as heavy as earlier anticipated, for the State as a whole the crop appears to be normal or slightly better than normal. The quality is very good, with even the late honey in most sections being very light in color. Colonies are in good condition with ample winter stores, and in some sections are still gathering a little pollen.



Wyoming. Rains during this period greatly improved moisture conditions after a very dry season, although moisture conditions are still somewhat below normal. Extracting has been largely completed and most bees have been prepared for winter. Colonies are in good condition with ample stores in most cases.

Montana. The crop in Montana has largely been extracted and bees are being rapidly prepared for winter. Colonies are in good condition. In some sections of the State moisture has been ample and plants are in very good condition while in other sections, mostly in the western part of the State, it has been unusually dry and moisture will be needed before the ground freezes. In most sections of the State yields were somewhat heavier than last season.

Utah. The weather continues dry in Utah with fall rains badly needed. Colony conditions are extremely spotted. Some colonies are very strong and have produced as much as 100 pound surplus during the past year, while in the same yard other colonies have died out. The exact reason for this peculiar situation is apparently not known.

Nevada. Crop conditions are very spotted in Nevada, with some sections producing a better than average crop while other sections produced only 20 to 30 pounds per colony. The crop has been extracted and largely moved to market. Sales f.o.b. section comb Clover Mixed Colors \$5.25-6.00 per case.

ARIZONA: (Period October 9-24)

No reports on conditions were received. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - per lb. extracted Light Amber Alfalfa in carlots 12¢; Alfalfa-Mesquite in single 60s 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; in 5-lb. glass 18¢.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period October 11-26)

East Texas. The fall flow from aster has been disappointing. While there is a heavy bloom and the weather has been good there has been little honey. The bloom has been worked heavily by many insects other than bees. Movement of honey in this section has been rather light, partially due to the fact that many wholesalers and retailers overstocked on darker grades of honey last winter and spring.

Northeast Texas. Colony condition in this section is slightly better than normal and plants are going into winter in normal condition. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted Cotton in case to ton lots 12¢.

Southwest Texas. This area continues dry with temperatures somewhat above normal. Plants are still producing some pollen. In some sections webworm has defoliated many honey plants. Colonies are in generally good condition for winter. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted Mixed Flowers in case to ton lots 12¢, in 5-lb. glass 18 1/3¢, in 1-lb. glass 21¢.

West Texas. While there have been no killing frosts in this area nights are getting cooler and there is little prospect for any additional honey this year. The crop in this section was somewhat below normal. Some better sections produced around 60 pounds per colony while in other sections the yield was considerably lower. The hot, dry summer which followed late spring freezes prevented normal colony increase in many sections.

PLAINS AREA: (Period October 11-26)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. The weather continues mild for this season, with only light frost in most sections. Extracting has been completed and most bees have been prepared for winter. Considerable fall feeding has been necessary. Many colonies are light in both populations and stores, and with the mild weather prevailing consumption of stores has been heavier than usual. Some beekeepers are gassing their bees and will replace them next spring with packages. Moisture conditions are favorable and plants appear in good condition for next season. Demand for honey has been fairly good and a large proportion of the crop has already moved. Apparently a smaller proportion of the crop will be packed and sold locally than was the case last year. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted, Clover in carlots 12¢, some 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ with cans returned; in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s to consumers 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 19-19 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. Beeswax 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.



Iowa. Extracting has been largely completed. In most sections the crop is quite short although in some sections, especially western Iowa, a fairly good crop was produced. Condition of colonies is extremely variable. In some sections they have strong populations and ample stores, while in other sections they are light both in populations and stores. Clover plants appear in good condition but indications are that the acreage of clover for next year will again be light. Movement of honey has been only fair. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 18-20¢.

Nebraska. The first killing frosts occurred in Nebraska around October 20. While most honey has been removed from bee yards, some commercial beekeepers have not yet completed extracting because of labor shortages. Most colonies have strong populations with many young bees and ample stores for winter. Eastern Nebraska has ample moisture and honey plants are in good condition. Sections of western Nebraska, on the other hand, are a little dry.

Kansas. While light frosts have partially killed tender vegetation there are still some late fall flowers available to provide pollen and a little pasturage. Colonies are in good condition with ample stores. Rainfall has been light in most sections of the State. White Dutch and sweetclover are in good condition and indications are that the acreage of sweetclover will be somewhat reduced next year.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period October 12-28)

Michigan. On the upper peninsula where winter weather conditions are normally severe bees have all been fed and are ready for the cellars. Recent weather has been very favorable so that bees have been able to fly some. In this section extracting has been completed. Honey sales have been at a moderate rate. On the lower peninsula extracting has been largely completed and a large proportion of the short crop which was gathered this season is already out of beekeepers' hands. Packing of bees for winter is progressing rapidly. In some sections colonies are rather weak, with very light stores so that heavy feeding will be necessary. In other sections colonies are fairly strong with ample stores to carry through a normal winter. Wholesale demand for honey has been good but retail demand is apparently lagging. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted White Clover in case to ton lots 12¢, in 5-lb. glass 19 1/3-21¢ per lb. Beeswax, 43 1/2¢ per lb. in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Wisconsin. Higher than normal temperatures for this season have been responsible for a heavy consumption of stores. Many colonies have been fed heavily to bring them up to proper weight for wintering but indications are that in some sections additional spring feeding will be necessary. Little rain has fallen during October so that the soil is becoming rather dry. Plants are not suffering, however, in most sections. Indications are that the acreage of clover for next year will be about the same as this year. Demand for honey has been fairly good from outside packers and local demand has shown some improvement during recent weeks. Many consumers are buying honey directly from beekeepers in even larger lots than was the case last year. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., White Clover in carlots and case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s to consumers mostly 15¢; in 5-lb. glass jars 20-22¢, mostly around 20¢.

Minnesota. Extracting has been completed in Minnesota and it is evident that the crop for the State as a whole is the lightest in many years. Many colonies are weak and heavy feeding has been necessary. It is generally felt unless considerable fall and winter feeding is resorted to, winter losses may be fairly heavy. The top soil is quite dry in most sections, but sub-soil moisture is fairly plentiful and plants for next season are in generally favorable condition. Outside packers are showing considerable interest in any light grades of honey that are available. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted in case to ton lots 12¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 19-21¢.

Ohio. Most of October was dry with considerable cool temperatures but little heavy frost. In some sections bees were unable to take full advantage of the fall flows. In others they gained from 15 to 20 pounds from fall flowers. Most colonies are in fairly good condition and a large percentage have ample stores for winter, although in some sections fairly heavy feeding will be necessary. In most sections clover plants are in fairly good condition although some areas are still in need of additional rain before winter. Demand for honey has been good and a large proportion of the crop is already out of beekeepers' hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted White Clover in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s to consumers 15¢; in 5-lb. glass 18-20¢; Buckwheat



in case to ton lots 12¢. Section comb, few sales No. 1 Mixed Flowers \$5.00; No. 1 Buckwheat \$6.00. Beeswax, 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Indiana. Weather has been very favorable with mild days and many cool, frosty nights. Freezes around mid-October in northern Indiana ended all honey flows. In some sections fair quantities of aster honey were gathered. In most sections bees are in very good condition with plentiful winter stores. Only in isolated sections will it be necessary to feed heavily. Demand for honey continues good, with all prices at the ceiling regardless of flavor or color.

Illinois. Most sections of Illinois are badly in need of rain. Many small streams have been dry for some time. Sweetclover and alsike clover seem to be rather scarce. In general colonies are in the best condition in a number of years. There are many young bees in the hives and the quantity and quality of winter stores are very good. Offerings of honey have been light and local demand is rapidly cleaning up the supplies of many beekeepers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - Extracted Clover in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s and bulk to consumers 15¢.

#### NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period October 13-29)

New York. The crop has largely been removed from the hives but shortage of help is slowing down extracting and winter packing operations among many of the larger beekeepers. In many sections of the State bees are in rather poor condition with insufficient stores. Heavy feeding is necessary in some sections and considerable difficulty has been experienced in obtaining sufficient sugar for feeding. Beekeepers have been able to obtain orders from the rationing boards in most cases but dealers have been unable to supply sugar because of a general overall shortage existing at this time. Demand for and movement of honey have been fairly good both from large packers and jobbers and also locally. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted White Clover in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 15¢; in 5-lb. glass 16.9-18¢, with some sales in small retail lots as high as 22¢; 1 and 2-lb. glass jars 21-22¢; Buckwheat in case to ton lots 12¢, few 13-14¢; in single 60s 15¢; in 5-lb. glass 16 2/3-18¢; Basswood-Sumac in single 60s 13-15¢; in 5-lb. glass 19¢; Aster-Goldenrod in case to ton lots 12¢; section comb White Clover Fancy \$6.50-7.50; No. 1, \$6.00 per case; Buckwheat Fancy few sales \$6.50-7.50.

Connecticut. The fall flow was spotty. Some apiaries need no feeding or very little, while others need heavy feeding for winter. Colonies appear strong and if properly fed should come out next spring in good shape. Demand for honey has improved.

New Jersey. Most vegetation has been killed in New Jersey so there is nothing further on which bees can work. While some winter stores were secured from fall flowers some feeding will be necessary in most sections. Most colonies are fairly strong in population and in good wintering condition.

Pennsylvania. Bees are being packed for winter in Pennsylvania and some beekeepers have already finished this operation. Recent rains have put the soil in fairly good condition so that prospects for a clover crop next year are considerably improved. While most colonies are in good condition for winter some beekeepers report their colonies in rather poor condition with considerable feeding necessary.

#### SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period October 13-29)

Maryland. Two light frosts have killed tender vegetation but in most sections of the State asters are still blooming in a limited way and providing a little pollen and pasturage for bees although no additional honey for winter stores will be available. While most colonies are in good condition with ample stores, some colonies have been reported near starvation so that heavy feeding will be necessary if they are to be carried through the winter. The light honey crop has been largely sold.

West Virginia. Bees are now being prepared for winter. Most colonies are well stocked with honey and have large clusters of bees.

South Carolina. Bees in most sections are in fairly good condition to go into the winter. Honey plants appear normal with no noticeable change in acreage in most honey plants which will be available for next year.



SOUTH CENTRAL SECTION: (Period October 13-29)

Kentucky. The honey crop has all been gathered in this section. Severe frosts have ended all nectar flow. In western Kentucky the fall flow from smartwood, asters and Spanish needle has <sup>been</sup> the best in many years. Most colonies have ample stores and fairly large clusters of young bees which should winter well.

Tennessee. Killing frosts in the mountains and light frosts in the lower areas have practically ended the fall honey flow. Fall flowers provided light winter stores and in some sections there was little or no flow at all. Reports have been received telling of actual starvation over wide areas of the State. Sugar feeding may save many colonies but fall broodrearing has been light and heavy loss of colonies may occur next winter because of lack of young bees in the winter cluster.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period October 12-28)

Georgia. Fall flowers bloomed somewhat longer than usual due to ideal moisture conditions with the result that considerable winter stores were gathered. However, some colonies which were extracted too closely last spring and did not gather sufficient fall honey will have to be fed. Some beekeepers left considerable spring honey on the hives which together with the fall crop will provide ample winter stores. Honey plants are in good condition. Demand for honey has been somewhat limited but has improved with the advent of cooler fall weather. Cane sirups are expected to be plentiful this year as the best cane crop in years is about to be gathered.

Florida. Bees were gathering some honey from goldenrod, summer-farewell and other late flowers when the hurricane which struck Florida on October 19 to 21 destroyed most bloom. Many hives were blown over and some colonies may be lost. Those colonies which were not damaged by the storm are in generally good condition with ample <sup>winter</sup> stores. Demand for honey has improved slightly. Much of the crop has already moved to market. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted Amber Mixed Flowers in 2-lb. glass 15¢.

Alabama. At the end of this period bees were still obtaining a little pollen and nectar from asters. In most sections of the State rain is badly needed. Most colonies are rather light in population and many may need some winter feeding.

Louisiana. In southern Louisiana the fall flow has been light. Considerable wind with cool weather interfered with nectar secretion during this period. Considerable pollen was gathered, however, and broodrearing has been very heavy. The prospects for capacity production of package bees and queens next spring are now rather unfavorable due to labor shortages. It has been extremely difficult to replace the skilled labor necessary for these operations. In northern Louisiana the fall flow is over but bees are still gathering considerable pollen from goldenrod and winter willow which the dry weather has not greatly hurt. The fall flow was of short duration but fairly heavy. Some colonies gained as much as 30 pounds in a few days time. Most colonies have plentiful stores and little feeding is anticipated. Very little honey remains unsold. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted Mixed Flowers in 60s, wholesale 12-12½¢.

- - - - -

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of October. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals. Practically no supplies on market. Fairly good demand but no sales reported.



CHICAGO: Receipts: by rail, 1 car Ariz.; by truck 14,452 lbs. Ill., 8,400 lbs. Mich.

COMB: Supplies light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales to retailers - ILLINOIS, cases 24 sections White Clover cellophane wrapped \$8.50.

EXTRACTED: Supplies light. Demand slow, market steady. Sales to bakers and other users - ILLINOIS, White Clover cases 1 doz. 2 pound seven ounce glass jars \$5.63 per cwt.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 45-46¢, few lots 43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago, few dealers paying 41½-43½¢ per lb. f.o.b. shipping point basis.

DENVER: Receipts - Colo. extracted approximately 60,000 lbs.; comb 75 cases; beeswax 1,500 lbs.

EXTRACTED: Demand moderate, but lighter than a year ago at this time, market steady at ceiling. Sales to retailers - COLORADO, White to Water White Sweet-clover, Alfalfa & Mixed Mountain Flowers cases 12, 5-lb. tins \$11.61-12.00; glass 12, 2-lb. \$5.43-5.65; 12, 44-oz. \$6.29; 12, 12-oz. \$2.40; case 24, half pound \$3.30-3.39.

COMB: Offerings light. Demand good, market about steady. Sales to retailers - COLORADO, cases, 24-frame cellophane-wrapped, Fancy \$6.50-7.00, Extra Fancy \$6.90-7.50, Choice \$5.75-6.00.

BEESWAX: Demand moderate, market steady at ceiling. Dealers paying Domestic crude 41½¢.

DETROIT: Receipts: extracted by truck 39,020 lbs. Mich.; by rail 2 cars origin not specified (approximately 50,000 lbs. each). Supplies moderate. Demand fair, market steady at ceiling prices.

EXTRACTED: Sales by bottlers to wholesalers- MICHIGAN, Clover, White and Extra Light Amber per case 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; per case 24, 8-oz. jars \$2.77; per case 6, 5-lb. jars \$5.09 f.o.b. basis.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, extracted 200, 60-lb. cans Minn. Light Amber; 5, 60-lb. cans Minn. White Sweetclover; 125 lbs. beeswax.

EXTRACTED: Supplies moderate. Demand fair, market steady at ceiling.

Sales to wholesale grocers - U. S. No. 1 Blended honey 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$5.72; sales to retail grocers- 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$6.52.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by truck 360 cans, 1,340 lbs.; origin not specified 795 bbls. Domestic market New York Buckwheat in moderate supply, other light; imported moderate. Demand moderate, market mostly at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales by receivers to retailers - CALIFORNIA, Light Amber Sage and Light Amber Alfalfa 15 3/4-16¢. NEW YORK, Buckwheat 14-14 3/4¢. Imported very few sales to jobbers and manufacturers- sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling price as follows: per lb. Warehoused by dealer in U. S. A. - 12,000 lbs. or over 11½¢, less than 12,000 but not less than 1500 lbs. 12½¢, less than 1500 but not less than 300 13½¢, less than 300 lbs. 14½¢, repacked in 60-lb. tins 2¢ higher.

BEESWAX: Origin not specified 380 bags arrived. Supplies light. Demand good, market strong at ceiling. Sales by receivers port of entry- South America and West Indies, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by truck 34,500 lbs. N.J., by Bridgeton, N.J. 8,160 lbs. origin unknown. Demand slow, market at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: NEW JERSEY, Lima Bean, 5 gal. cans 15½¢ per lb.;

IOWA, White Clover, 1 dozen 2-lb. jars \$4.76; 2 dozen 1-lb. jars \$5.04 f.o.b. shipping point to jobbers and chains.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck extracted 3,120 lbs. bottled Mid-western, 5,500 lbs. Mich., 2,400 lbs. Iowa. Demand moderate, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Brokers' sales to jobbers - MICHIGAN, White Clover, cartons 2 dozen 1-lb. jars \$5.04; 1 dozen 3-lb. jars \$6.85. OHIO, cartons White Clover 1 dozen 2-lb. jars \$4.76. Receivers sales to retailers - IOWA, cartons White Clover 1 dozen 2-lb. jars \$5.00, 2 dozen 1-lb. jars \$5.25.

KANSAS CITY: Idaho l.c.l. receipts light, local truck receipts moderate.

EXTRACTED: Market about steady. Sales to manufacturers and wholesalers - 60-lb. tins local, Clover and Alfalfa, Light Amber 15<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢. Package honey sales to wholesalers - IDAHO, White Clover 6, 5-lb. glass \$5.40; 12, 2-lb. glass \$5.00; 24, 1-lb. glass \$5.35. LOCAL, Clover and Alfalfa, Light Amber 6, 5-lb. glass \$5.35-5.40; 12, 2-lb. glass \$4.90-5.00; 24, 1-lb. glass \$5.25.

PORTLAND: Receipts: by motor truck, extracted from Southern Oregon 100, 60-lb. cans Alfalfa; Willamette Valley 60, 60-lb. cans Mixed Flowers; from California 1 car package honey Mixed Flowers; comb 1,825 cases from Idaho. Supplies moderate, slow consumer demand being attributed to heavy arrivals of low grade honey several months ago which has not cleaned up, as well as more plentiful supply of sirups.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other large buyers - OREGON, Clover-Vetch and Blends case lots 12, 5-lb. jars and cans \$12.12; 24, 8-oz. jars \$3.36. IDAHO and CALIFORNIA, Blended 24, 1-lb. jars \$5.75-5.80; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.42-5.63; 12, 3-lb. jars \$7.92; 12, 5-lb. jars \$11.60-12.44; bulk 60-lb. cans Southern OREGON 16¢ per lb.

COMB: Demand good. Sales to retailers - IDAHO, Fancy 24, 12-oz. \$9.30; Choice 10-oz. \$9.00-9.10.

BEESWAX: Arrivals have been fairly heavy with dealers paying ceiling prices.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts light. Trading light, market firm. Sales by commission merchants and wholesalers to retailers -

EXTRACTED: COLORADO, Alfalfa Light Amber, cartons 12, 5-lb. jars \$12.59; 12, 2-lb. jars \$6.21; 12, 1-lb. jars \$3.27; 12, half pound jars \$1.88. IOWA, Mixed Flowers Dark Amber, cartons 12, 1-lb. jars few \$2.75. ILLINOIS, Mixed Flowers Light Amber 60-lb. tins few 14<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢ per lb.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND AND ALAMEDA: Receipts: by truck from Northern California - 271 cases White Thistle, 292 cases Amber Thistle Mixture, 159 cases Amber to Light Amber Mixed Flowers, 91 cases Amber Snowbrush; from Central California - 107 cases Light Amber Buckwheat, 60 cases Extra Light Amber Cotton, 112 cases White Orange, 20 cases White Sage, 19 cases White Sage-Lima Bean; 286 cases Extra Light Amber Thistle-Cotton-Jackass Clover; 107 cases Light Amber Thistle-Cotton-Blue Curls-Spikeweed; from Nevada - 233 cases Clover comb mixed Colors.

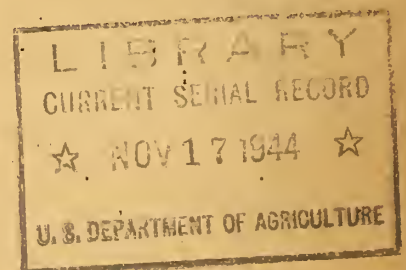
SEATTLE: Receipts: extracted - Calif. 100 cases 6, 5-lb. jars; Idaho 20, 60-lb. cans; comb Colo. 793 cases, Idaho 260 cases. Supplies light. Demand fair, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots - WASHINGTON, creamed honey 24, 14-oz. cups \$6.24; 30, 14-oz. cups \$8.05. WASHINGTON and IDAHO, Alfalfa-Sweetclover Light Amber 12, 5-lb. jars and tins \$12.00-12.60; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.95. CALIFORNIA, Orange and Mixed Flowers, Amber to Light Amber 24, 1-lb. jars \$6.49-6.55; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.80-6.12; 12, 3-lb. jars \$8.50; 6, 5-lb. jars \$6.25-6.47; 60-lb. cans \$11.19-11.50.

COMB: Sales to retailers - IDAHO, COLORADO and OREGON, 24, 12-oz. Fancy \$9.25-9.50; 10-oz. Fancy \$9.00, 10 and 12-oz. No. 1, \$8.50-9.00; 10 and 12 oz. Choice \$8.25-8.50; unclassified \$7.50.

Released Nov. 3, 1944.

meb





17  
m34H0  
Reserve

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
Office of Distribution

Telephone - REpublic 4142,  
Extension 2176.

Washington 25, D. C.  
November 15, 1944.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII - No. 22

SUMMARY

The fall season over the entire country has been unusually favorable for bees and for beeyard operations. Except for some of the more northern States and in the mountain areas there were few killing frosts prior to early November. Some sections of the country, especially through the north central States and Plains Area were becoming rather dry, but rains during late October and early November have improved moisture conditions in most areas. The long open fall has aided beekeepers in completing extracting and packing operations before winter sets in, although in some sections labor shortages have slowed down these operations somewhat. This is especially true among the larger commercial beekeepers requiring a fairly large labor force.

In practically all sections of the country bees are in good condition for winter. Winter stores are ample in most sections. However, in the lake States and portions of the Plains Area rather heavy feeding has been necessary and some additional feeding may be required to bring bees through the winter.

Demand for honey especially the lighter grades has been very good, although still somewhat below the very active demand that prevailed last season. It now appears that large lots of honey will mostly be out of beekeepers' hands before the first of the year. In some sections demand for dark grades of honey is still lagging. While some packers and commercial users are offering below ceiling prices for dark honey, there apparently have been few if any sales of consequence made below the ceiling. Comb honey is extremely light and sales have consisted of small lots at an extremely wide range of prices. Practically all sales of extracted honey have been at the ceiling regardless of flavor or color. Offerings of beeswax have been light with all movement at the ceiling of 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Amendment 2 to revised Maximum Price Regulation 264, effective November 6 increased importers maximum buying and selling prices for crude pure beeswax produced in Portuguese West Africa by 2½¢ per lb. The maximum price in quantities of one ton or more f.o.b. ocean port of origin on beeswax imported from Portuguese West Africa is now 33 3/4¢ per lb., with beeswax imported from other African territories 31½¢. The increase permitted by the amendment is available only for purchases and sale of crude beeswax produced in Portuguese West Africa. This amendment also involves two minor changes covering weight franchise and ocean port of origin. Under the weight franchise any difference between net shipping weight and net landed weight in excess of one percent shall be the sellers' responsibility and loss. The buyer may not pay for any difference between net shipping weight and net landed weight in excess of one percent.

Normally the expression "f.o.b. ocean port of origin" means f.o.b. the port where the material is loaded on an ocean going vessel with through bill of lading to the United States. However, it appears that many ocean ports normally used by foreign sellers are inactive due to a shortage of ships. The wax must be transported by train, truck, or coastal vessel to a larger and more distant port, which involves extraordinary freight expense which it appears proper for the purchaser to pay. This amendment provides that purchases shall be made at the established prices f.o.b. actual port of origin but that in the circumstances described above the buyer may also pay the amount by which freight charges from the sellers' shipping point to the ocean port of origin by the cheapest route exceed the freight charges to the port normally used by the seller. Copies of the amendment may be obtained from the Office of Price Administration, Washington, D. C.



INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Oct. 23-Nov. 8)

Southern California. Temperatures were generally moderate during this period with considerable cloudiness. Heavy rains fell over much of the district toward the end of the period greatly improving moisture conditions. In the hills bees are generally dormant since vegetation has dried up. In the valleys mustard is producing pollen and a little nectar. Eucalyptus is beginning to bloom. In the valleys most colonies are in very good condition with some brood. Demand for honey continues very good, especially for the lighter grades, with all sales at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb., f.o.b. shipping point, regardless of flavor or color. Beeswax continues to move well at the ceiling of 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Central and Northern California. Rainfall has been heavier than normal for the season during the latter part of October and the fore part of November. Moisture was badly needed and is reviving plants. In most sections colonies are in fairly good condition although some have small clusters. Many colonies are well supplied with winter stores while others will require some feeding to come through in prime condition next spring. Demand for honey has been active. A large proportion of the crop has moved out of beekeepers hands but lack of truck transportation has been responsible for slow deliveries. Retail demand for the lighter grades of honey in the Bay Cities area has been good, but not as heavy as last season. On the other hand demand for dark honey by commercial users has been rather light. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted in case to ton lots, Central California, Buckwheat-Blue Curls, Cotton, Jackass Clover, Thistle-Sage-Buckwheat, and Mixed Flowers; and Northern California Alfalfa-Blue Curls, Eucalyptus, Snowbrush, Thistle-Clover, Thistle, Clover and Heath 12¢. Beeswax offerings were very light with sales at the ceiling of 41½¢ cash, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period Oct. 23-Nov. 8)

Temperatures have been about normal for this season. In the Valley areas west of the Cascades there has been little frost while in the higher altitudes and east of the Cascades there have been heavy frosts and some freezing. Rainfall has been plentiful in the lower altitudes with considerable snow at higher levels. The Cascade range is fairly well covered with snow with indications of very satisfactory moisture storage as compared with last year when there was a shortage of water storage. Bees are in generally good condition with most colonies fairly well supplied with winter stores although in some sections considerable winter feeding will be necessary. Honey has mostly moved out of producers' hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Clover-Vetch and Clover-Alfalfa in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s mostly 15¢; in 3-lb. glass 19¢. Comb- Eastern Washington Alfalfa-Clover Fancy \$7.00-8.00 per case of 24 sections.

INTERMOUNTAIN SECTION: (Period Oct. 24-Nov. 9)

Weather has been very favorable over practically the entire Intermountain Region during this period. Large portions of Colorado and Montana are still very dry. Rains in Idaho, Utah, and parts of Nevada have put the soil in good condition for winter and helped fall plants. Colorado has had the driest fall in a good many years, and much of that State still needs rain badly. Bees are in good condition for winter in all sections except portions of Utah and southern Idaho. Poisoning has been responsible for many weak colonies in Utah, while in portions of Idaho bees built up very slowly last summer and produced a very light crop. In all sections labor shortages have hindered the fall packing operations of large commercial beekeepers, but practically all now have their bees in winter quarters. Demand for honey continues very good, with a very large percentage of the crop out of producers' hands. A very large tonnage has been shipped to cooperatives through the middlewest and east. Less honey is being packed by beekeepers for local use, and in most sections local demand for honey has fallen off during recent weeks. Apparently considerable dark honey has been carried over from last season by retailers and local jobbers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Clover-Alfalfa in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s mostly 15¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 18-19¢.

-continued-



Comb - Nevada, Clover-Alfalfa \$6.00-6.50 per case of 24 sections. Details by States follow:

Colorado. Light rainfall toward the end of this period on the Western Slope and in the Valleys of southern Colorado broke the longest dry spell in a good many years. Portions of northern and eastern Colorado were still very dry. For the State as a whole colonies were in unusually good condition with large clusters and ample stores. The long open fall has been very helpful in permitting beekeepers to complete their fall operations despite a considerable shortage of skilled labor.

Wyoming. In the Lander Valley bees have been packed for winter. A heavy rain has benefited plants and put the soil in good condition for winter. Considerable alfalfa land has been broken up for cash crops. In this area bees are in good condition with strong colonies and fairly good food stores.

Montana. Practically all bees are in good condition and packed for winter. October was warmer than normal with the result that consumption of stores has been fairly heavy. While some rain has fallen, especially in the mountains, the ground in most sections is still quite dry and additional rainfall is needed before the ground freezes.

Idaho. In most sections bees are going into winter in normal condition with ample stores although in some sections of southern Idaho colonies are weak and did not produce sufficient honey last season to carry them through the winter. In these sections considerable feeding will be necessary. Most bees have been packed. Shortage of help has held up fall operations among many beekeepers. Moisture conditions are generally good.

Utah. Rains which started about November 5 and continued for several days put ample moisture into the soil before the ground freezes. Condition of bees continues very spotted with some colonies in fairly strong condition and with ample stores while other colonies in the same section or even in the same yard are very weak and light in stores. Arsenic poisoning is being held responsible for the loss of bees but no satisfactory explanation for the spotted nature of the losses has yet been found.

Nevada. Bees have gone into winter in very good condition. The first cold weather of the season occurred on November 5.

#### ARIZONA: (Period October 24-November 9)

Bees are in good condition with plentiful stores in most sections. Fairly good rainfall over most of southern Arizona has put plants in good condition for next season. In southeastern Arizona the first killing frosts occurred around November 7. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted, Alfalfa-Mesquite, carlot 12¢; Mesquite in single 60s 13½¢, in 5-lb. glass 18¢. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

#### SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period October 26-November 11)

Northeast Texas. Warm growing weather continues in this section. Mint and clover plants are in unusually good condition. A heavy rain on November 8 did considerable damage to the cotton crop, which had not been completely harvested. Bees are in good condition for winter, with little or no disease apparent. Much of the dark fall honey has been left on the hives for winter stores. In some local sections spray poisoning on cotton killed some bees.

East Texas. During this period bees near asters have enjoyed a very good flow and most have stored some surplus in addition to their winter needs. In the timbered sections oak has produced the heaviest honeydew flow in many years. Most colonies have stored considerable honeydew and some is being removed from the hives.

Southeast Texas. Aster yielded very well but many colonies are not strong enough to take advantage of the flow. There will be little or no fall surplus to extract. While bees are still able to obtain pollen and a little nectar their activities are about over for this season. Most colonies are in fairly good condition, with plentiful supplies of both bees and honey.

Southwest Texas. This section has had the longest and mildest fall in a number of years. In some sections rain is badly needed while in others showers have revived many plants. Bees are still gathering a little late honey from broomweed and rock brush. Colonies are in excellent condition for winter. Demand for honey has been rather slow but prices have held up well. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Light Amber Mixed Flowers in case to ton lots mostly 12¢, few high as 13½¢. Beeswax 41½¢ cash. over -



West Texas. Light frosts and continued dry weather have just about put a stop to any further honey gathering in this section.

New Mexico. In the Mesilla Valley most hives are heavy with stores but some are light in bees since broodrearing stopped early this year. The first frost in this section occurred on November 6. In the middle Rio Grande Valley about 60 percent of a normal crop was harvested. Demand for honey in both sections is only moderate at this time. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, extracted-Alfalfa, in 5-lb. pails 16 2/3¢ per lb.

PLAINS AREA: (Period October 26-November 11)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. The weather turned cold on November 1 with temperatures in some sections running as low as 15 degrees. Some beekeepers have their bees ready for winter while others have barely started packing operations. Weather during much of October was too mild to place bees in cellars. Many colonies are rather weak with light stores due to the early cessation of the honey flow and tapering off of broodrearing, so that rather poor wintering may be expected. A very large percentage of the honey crop has already moved out of beekeepers hands. Local demand has not been as heavy as last year but in some sections available supplies are already below local needs. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted Clover in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 15¢; in small pails 19¢.

Iowa. First killing frosts occurred in Iowa around November 5. While most honey plants are in fairly good condition the ground is quite dry and good soaking rains before the ground freezes would be most beneficial. Packing operations are progressing satisfactorily although many beekeepers have delayed packing because of the mild open fall. Demand for honey has been fairly good with movement of dark grades of honey showing some improvement over a month earlier. A large proportion of the crop has already moved to packers or to the cooperatives. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb, extracted, White Clover in single 60s 15¢; in 5-lb. pails 19 1/3¢.

Nebraska. Bees and honey plants are in good condition. The weather has been mild during October and early November with fairly plentiful moisture in eastern Nebraska but very little in the western part of the State which is becoming very dry. Indications are that the acreage of sweetclover for next year will be even lighter than this season. Labor shortages have retarded extracting and packing operations of many beekeepers.

Kansas. Milder than normal fall temperatures have resulted in heavy consumption of stores. In many yards feeding has been resorted to to conserve stores. Bees are in good condition. Sweetclover is fairly plentiful along roadsides and in waste places but acreage of planted sweetclover will be light for next year.

Missouri. Bees have been active well into November with the result that consumption of stores has been heavy. The total fall flow was light and most colonies stored barely enough for winter food needs. Demand for honey has been moderate. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, Clover and Mixed Flowers, in case to ton lots 12¢.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES (Period October 28-November 12)

Michigan. On the Upper Peninsula there had been no snow to the end of this period but good rains have been very beneficial to honey plants. Bees have had a few good flights recently and will be placed in cellars after the first snows. On the Lower Peninsula temperatures have been mild with many flying days. Moisture conditions are rather spotted. Most sections have ample moisture but some are still a little dry. Clover seedings are spotted and it looks like the acreage will again be light next season. Most colonies are in fairly good condition but considerable fall feeding was done and some winter feeding will be necessary in many yards. Large lots of honey are fairly well cleaned up. Demand is running in excess of offerings. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Extracted - Clover in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 15¢.

Wisconsin. Weather has been sufficiently mild to permit occasional flights. Most colonies have been packed for winter and appear to be in generally good condition. Many colonies were fed heavily and may require some additional sugar before spring. Honey plants are in good condition with ample moisture in most sections. Demand for honey has been good with several large lots moving at the ceiling. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - White Clover in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. glass 18-20¢; in 1-lb. glass 19-22¢. Beeswax 41-41 1/2¢ cash, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

- continued -



Minnesota. Much of Minnesota is quite dry. October was generally mild with the result that consumption of stores was heavy and heavy feeding was necessary to put bees in shape for winter. Cooler weather set in early in November and many beekeepers have been unable to finish feeding operations. Packing operations have been retarded among commercial beekeepers by lack of labor. Demand for honey has picked up, especially demand from local consumers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Extracted Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s to consumers 15¢.

Ohio. The fall has been mild and abnormally dry until the last few days of this period when cooler weather set in with rains in some sections. In all sections, however, rain is badly needed before the ground freezes. Bees are in good condition for winter and most have been packed and fed where feeding was necessary. In most sections the aster flow provided good winter stores with the result that little feeding has been required. Clover acreage is rather spotted and in some sections seems to have suffered some from the drought. In some districts it appears that the acreage of soybeans which will be planted next season may show some reduction with some farmers planting additional clover acreage. Local demand for honey has increased and large lots are pretty well out of producers hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted White Clover in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 15¢; in 5-lb. glass 19-20¢; Goldenrod in single 60s 12¢. Comb- White Clover No. 1, \$6.00; No. 2, \$5.50. Beeswax 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Indiana. Recent rains have put fall wheat and clover seedings in good condition. Mild weather during most of the fall has aided beekeepers in completing their packing operations. Bees are going into winter quarters in good condition.

Illinois. Bees are being packed for winter and are in very good condition with good clusters of young bees and ample stores, mostly of fall aster honey. Recent rains have added to the soil moisture and plants appear in good condition although in some sections the summer drought reduced clover seedings. Demand for honey has been very good; and supplies are rapidly moving out of producers hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted, White Clover and Mixed Flowers in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 15¢; in 5-lb. glass 17½-19¢, some low as 16¢. Comb- White Clover few sales \$8.50 per case of 24 sections.

NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period October 30-November 13)

New York. Feeding and packing operations are fairly well completed in New York, although many beekeepers had difficulty in obtaining sugar for bees earlier in the season and this together with shortage of labor delayed operations. In most sections bees are in good condition for winter although many clusters are small and many colonies are rather light in stores. In some sections the fall crop from asters and goldenrod provided sufficient honey to carry bees through the winter nicely. Moisture conditions are generally favorable and honey plants in most sections are in better than normal condition for this time of the year. Light honey is moving very well, but buckwheat and dark fall honey are meeting with a somewhat slower demand which is accounted for by the fairly large carryover by retailers of dark imported honeys, some of which are of rather ordinary quality. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted White Clover in carlots and case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. pails 16.9-19¢, few small lots 20-22¢; Buckwheat in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢; in 5-lb. glass jars 16 2/3-19¢. Comb- White Clover No. 1, \$7.00-8.00, some fair quality \$6.00; Buckwheat No. 1, \$7.00-7.50. Beeswax, 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Vermont. In north central Vermont the weather has been cold and wet with some snow. Packing is about completed. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted White Clover, in 5-lb. glass jars 17¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢.

Pennsylvania. Conditions of bees is rather spotted. In some sections colonies are fairly strong with ample supplies of good honey for winter stores. In other sections colonies are weak and most of the winter stores consist of aster and goldenrod honey which is not properly ripened.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period October 30-November 13)

Maryland, West Virginia, and Virginia. This period was very satisfactory for bee-yard activity and permitted some flights for bees during which they could obtain a little scattered pollen. While there was little rain, moisture conditions are still very favorable. Clover looks very good at this time. Most colonies are in excellent condition for winter and most have ample food stores.

North Carolina. Bees are going into winter in good condition. In most sections there was a light fall flow from asters and other wild flowers. In these sections late broodrearing was fairly active. Very little honey remains in the hands of producers. Demand has been fairly good at ceiling prices.

SOUTH CENTRAL SECTION: (Period October 30-November 13)

Kentucky. In north central Kentucky a severe freeze followed by cold, rainy weather kept bees confined during the first part of November. In this section colonies are in excellent condition and plants are also in very good condition for winter. There appears to be no reduction in plantings of clover. In southwestern Kentucky the ground is still dry.

Tennessee. Condition of bees for winter is varied. In some localities large numbers of colonies are near starvation due to failure of fall flowers to provide nectar. Bees worked on the flowers but obtained little honey. In other sections rains at the proper time and the long open fall provided ample winter stores. In some sections fall feeding of sugar will not save many colonies because of lack of pollen and fall broodrearing.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period October 28-November 12)

Georgia. In south Georgia there have been no killing frosts to the end of this period. Bees are still getting considerable pollen and in some localities a little nectar from fall plants. The fall flow was spotted. Some apiaries gathered ample honey for winter stores while in other apiaries bees will have to be fed. Broodrearing has slowed up but queens are still laying and all colonies have some brood in all stages of development. Most colonies are very strong in populations and in good wintering condition, provided those which are light in food stores are fed. Labor shortages have caused a few large beekeepers to sell a portion of their bees in order to operate with the available help. No honey sales were reported but beeswax moved at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Florida. While some cool weather has prevailed during this period there has been no killing frost as yet. In some sections which were hit by the hurricane a large portion of the fall flowers were destroyed and some colonies will require feeding to carry them through to the early spring flow. In most sections colonies are in good condition and have ample honey to take care of their winter needs. Some bees are being moved from their summer locations to the swamp areas to take advantage of the early flows next spring. Demand for honey has been rather light. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Amber Mixed Flowers in 1-lb. glass jars 16¢.

Mississippi. In the vicinity of State College bees are in rather poor condition with small clusters and light winter stores.

Louisiana. In southern Louisiana the nectar flow is over but some late flowers are providing a little pollen. In this section the fall flow as a whole was light. However, considerable honey is left on the hives so that winter stores are ample. Winter population is adequate with many young bees. Production of bees should be heavy in the spring provided weather conditions are normal. Some package and queen producers, however, indicate that it will be impossible to deliver more than 50 percent of their capacity due to lack of skilled labor. In northern Louisiana bees are in very good condition. Some pollen is still being gathered from late flowers. Recent rains have put white Dutch clover in good condition but late-cut alfalfa and white Sweetclover are rather spotted, due to the dry summer.



TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of Nov. . . . Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: 1 car of 1600 cases extracted Ohio arrived. All sales f.o.b. on brokerage basis. Nothing available for sale on spot market, including comb. Demand slightly slower.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by truck, 528 lbs. Ill., 1500 lbs. Iowa; no rail receipts reported.

COMB: Supplies light. Demand moderate, market firm. Sales to retailers - ILLINOIS, cases 24-sections White Clover, cellophane-wrapped few \$8.50.

EXTRACTED: Practically no supplies on market. No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 45-46¢, few lots 43½¢ per lb. delivered Chicago, few dealers paying 41½¢-43½¢ per lb. f.o.b. shipping point basis-

DENVER: Receipts: Colorado extracted, approximately 48,000 lbs.; comb, none; beeswax 3,400 lbs.

EXTRACTED: Demand moderate, market steady at ceiling. Sales to retailers- COLORADO, White to Water White Sweetclover, Alfalfa & Mixed Mountain Flowers, cases 12, 5-lb. tins \$11.61-12.00; glass 12, 2-lb. \$5.43-5.65; 12, 44-oz. \$6.29; 12, 12-oz. \$2.40; case 24, half pound \$3.30-3.39.

COMB: Offerings very light. Demand good, market steady. Sales to retailers- COLORADO, cases, 24-frame cellophane-wrapped, Fancy \$6.50-7.00, Extra Fancy \$6.90-7.50, Choice \$5.75-6.00.

BEESWAX: Demand good, market steady at ceiling. Dealers paying Domestic crude 41½¢.

DETROIT: Receipts: extracted 10,981 lbs. Mich., 20,000 lbs. Ohio; 1200 lbs. Iowa, 31,000 lbs. imported. Supplies moderate. Demand rather slow, market about steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales by bottlers to wholesalers- MICHIGAN and OHIO, White and Extra Light Amber, per case 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04, 24, 8-oz. jars \$2.77. F.o.b. basis- IOWA, per case 12, 16-oz. jars delivered Detroit \$2.60. ARGENTINA, Blended and bottled Detroit per case 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 24, 8-oz. jars \$2.77.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, extracted 12,60-lb. cans Minn. Light Amber. Receipts incomplete.

EXTRACTED: Supplies moderate. Demand fair, market steady at ceiling. Sales to wholesale grocers - U. S. No. 1 Blended honey 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$5.72; sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$6.52.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail, 2 cars Calif. 270 lbs. Pa.; by boat 225 lbs. origin not specified. Supplies domestic light, imported moderate; demand rather light, market domestic at ceiling, imported mostly at ceiling, with occasional sales lower.

EXTRACTED: Sales by receivers to retailers - CALIFORNIA, Light Amber Sage and Light Amber Alfalfa mostly 16¢. NEW YORK and PENNSYLVANIA, Buckwheat 14-14 3/4¢. Imported sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling prices as follows: per lb. Warehoused by dealer in U.S.A. - 12,000 or over 11½¢, occasional sales 11¢; few sales made in smaller denominations less than 12,000 but not less than 1500 lbs. 12½¢, less than 1500 but not less than 300 lbs. 13½¢; less than 300 14½¢.

BEESWAX: Supplies light. Demand good, market strong. Sales by receivers- port of entry: WEST INDIES, SOUTH AMERICA, principally WEST INDIES, sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun-bleachable 40¢. Arrivals: 72 bags origin not specified.

PHILADELPHIA: Honey and Beeswax: No arrivals since last report. Honey demand slow, market at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: NEW JERSEY, Lima Bean, 5-gallon cans 15½¢ per lb., 600-lb. drums 15¢ per lb. to distributors. IOWA, White Clover, 1 dozen 2-lb. jars \$4.76; 2 dozen 1-lb. jars \$5.04 f.o.b. shipping point to jobbers and chains.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck - extracted 3,120 lbs. bottled Midwestern, 3,000 lbs. Ohio. Demand slow, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Brokers' sales to wholesalers - OHIO, White Clover cartons 24, 1-lb. jars \$5.04; 12, 2-lb. jars \$4.76. Sales by receivers to retailers - IOWA, White Clover cartons 24, 1-lb. jars \$5.00-5.25.

PORTLAND: Receipts: from Oregon 60, 60-lb. cans Mixed Flowers. Supplies in hands of jobbers moderate, but retailers are fairly well stocked. Demand slow but prices hold firmly to ceiling levels.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other large buyers- OREGON, Clover-Vetch and Blends case lots 12, 5-lb. jars and cans \$12.12; 24, 8-oz. jars \$3.36. IDAHO and CALIFORNIA, Blended 24, 1-lb. jars \$5.75-5.80; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.42-5.63; 12, 3-lb. jars \$7.92; 12, 5-lb. jars \$11.60-12.44; bulk 60-lb. cans Southern OREGON, 16¢ per lb.

COMB: No arrivals. Demand moderate. Sales to retailers - IDAHO, Fancy 24, 12-oz. \$9.30; Choice 10-oz. \$9.00-9.10.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts light. Trading light, market firm. Sales by commission merchants and wholesalers to retailers -

EXTRACTED: COLORADO, Alfalfa Light Amber, cartons 12, 5-lb. jars \$12.59; 12, 2-lb. jars \$6.21; 12, 1-lb. jars \$3.27; 12, half pound jars \$1.88. IOWA, Mixed Flowers Dark Amber, cartons 12, 1-lb. jars few \$2.75. ILLINOIS, Mixed Flowers Light Amber 60-lb. tins few 14½¢ per lb.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND AND ALAMEDA: Receipts: by truck, Northern California - 475 cases Light Amber Alfalfa-Thistle-Blue Curls, 358 cases Light Amber Eucalyptus, 46 cases White Snowbrush, 18 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers, 23 cases White Thistle-Clover; Central California - 73 cases Light Amber Buckwheat-Blue Curls, 60 cases Light Amber Cotton, 460 cases Extra Light Amber Jackass Clover-Thistle-Sage-Buckwheat, 273 cases Amber to Light Amber Mixed Flowers; Beeswax: 2,467 lbs.; Southern California - 149 cases White Orange, 46 cases Extra Light Amber Star Thistle; Nevada - 175 cases White Clover; origin not specified - 41 cases White Mixed Flowers.

SEATTLE: Receipts: extracted Calif. 625 cases 6, 5-lb. jars; comb - Idaho 205 cases. Supplies light. Demand fair for bottled honey, good for comb, market steady at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots - WASHINGTON, creamed honey 24, 14-oz. cups \$6.24; 30, 14-oz. cups \$8.05. WASHINGTON and IDAHO, Alfalfa-Sweetclover Light Amber 12, 5-lb. jars and tins \$12.00-12.60; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.95. CALIFORNIA, Orange and Mixed Flowers, Amber to Light Amber 24, 1-lb. jars \$6.49-6.55; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.80-6.12; 12, 3-lb. jars \$8.50; 6, 5-lb. jars \$6.25-6.47; 60-lb. cans \$11.19-11.50. 24,

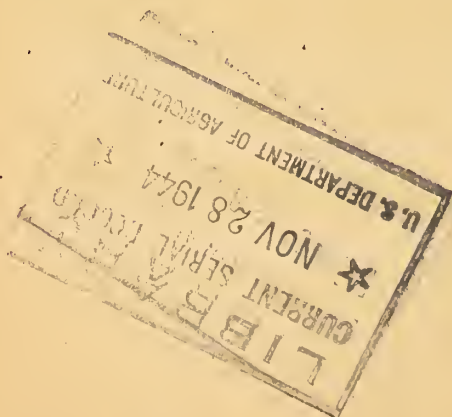
COMB: Sales to retailers - IDAHO, COLORADO and OREGON, 12-oz. Fancy \$9.25-9.50; 10-oz. Fancy \$9.00; 10 and 12-oz. No. 1, \$8.50-9.00; 10 and 12 oz. Choice \$8.25-8.50; unclassified \$7.50.

KANSAS CITY: Truck receipts light local and Texas.

EXTRACTED: Sales to wholesalers and manufacturers - TEXAS, 60-lb. tins, Mesquite and Alfalfa Light Amber 14½¢. MISSOURI, 60-lb. tins White Clover 15¢.

Released Nov. 20, 1944.

meb





1.9  
3440

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
Office of Distribution

LIBRARY  
CURRENT

Telephone - REpublic 4142,  
Extension 2176.

Washington 25, D. C.  
December 1, 1944.

JAN 30 1945

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII - No. 23

SUMMARY

In practically all sections of the country except for the extreme South, cooler weather has confined bees and they have gone into winter quarters. Fall feeding and winter packing operations have been practically completed throughout the northern sections of the country. Labor shortages have delayed these operations among many of the larger commercial beekeepers. In practically all sections colonies are in good condition. The long, mild fall favored late brood-rearing and the production of young bees and also made it possible for bees in many areas to add considerably to their winter stores. In the northern Plains Area and the Lake States considerable fall feeding was necessary. This was also true in the package-producing section of the Southeast. In portions of the North Central States and Plains Area and also in the Intermountain Region many sections are rather dry. Little snow has fallen and additional moisture would be very helpful before the ground freezes. Despite the dry summer and fall which prevailed over large areas honey plants are in generally good condition for next year. Indications are that the planted clover acreage over the large clover honey area may again be light, although sweetclover in pastures and waste areas seems to be fairly plentiful.

A very large percentage of the honey crop has already moved out of producers' hands. Retail demand for honey has been only fair and much below that of a year ago. Cheaper sirups, jams, and jellies are more plentiful this season. Many grocers also have a rather heavy carryover of dark imported honey which has cut into the demand for the lighter grades. There seems to be little question, however, but that the short domestic honey crop will clean up very well. Prices to producers are holding firm at ceiling levels on all flavors and grades except for an occasional lot of dark bakers honey in the Southeast.

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period Nov. 8-23)

Southern California. Heavy rains around the middle of November which in some sections exceeded any previous November records revived plants. Some snow fell in the higher mountains. The rainy period was followed by cooler weather, although no damaging frosts occurred in any section. In the higher elevations bees are dormant and broodrearing has stopped. In the valleys pollen and very small amounts of nectar are being gathered from mustard, eucalyptus and avocados. While colonies are in fair condition for this season, in some sections consumption of stores has been very heavy and may necessitate some sugar feeding before spring. There has been some improvement in demand for dark honey, and demand for the lighter grades exceeds supplies. Offerings of imported honey have been somewhat lighter during recent weeks. While practically all honey is out of producers' hands, occasional lots have sold at the ceiling \$14.40 per case of 120 pounds, f.o.b. shipping point, regardless of flavor or color. Beeswax offerings have been rather limited at prices holding at the ceiling of 41 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ cash and 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Imperial Valley - Recent rains have improved desert plants which are useful in spring broodrearing although not important as a source of honey. Alfalfa planting is normal in this section. Practically all Imperial Valley honey has been sold.

Central and Northern California. Rainfall and frost have been general over most of the northern and central parts of the State. Precipitation for the State is much heavier than normal. Plant growth is unusually good and prospects are bright for a good growth of flowering plants next spring. In most sections



colonies are in fairly good condition, with plentiful supplies of young bees. There is little or no broodrearing, however, some colonies have two to three frames of capped brood. The lighter grades of honey are in good demand, but dark honey is moving rather slowly especially at retail. Prices remain at ceiling levels except for an occasional sale of dark honey. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - Northern California, Thistle, Star Thistle, and Mixed Flowers; Central California, Blue Curls, Cotton-Blue Curls, Orange, and Mixed Flowers 12¢; Northern California, Dark Amber Oak Honeydew 10¢.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period Nov. 8-23)

Lower temperatures during the middle and latter part of November kept bees confined most of the time, although occasional warm afternoons permitted some flight. The mountains are covered with a good snow cover and present indications are that the moisture reserve will be heavier than last year. In the lower altitudes rainfall has been general. In some sections confinement to the hives has caused a rapid drop in weight of scale colonies. Bees are wintering well, however, in most sections. In the Prosser-Pasco district considerable honey has been so strongly contaminated with mint that it is almost unsalable on account of the strong flavor. Demand for honey has been rather slow, but prices have held at ceiling. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Willamette Valley, Southern Oregon Vetch, Clover-Vetch, and Mixed Flowers, in case to ton lots 12¢; Eastern Oregon and Washington Clover-Alfalfa in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in 3-lb. glass 20¢. Comb- Clover-Alfalfa grade A \$7.50-8.00 per case of 24 sections.

INTERMOUNTAIN SECTION: (Period Nov. 9-24)

Colder winter weather has set in over most of this area, following a mild fall. Much of the area east of the mountains is still unusually dry, with portions of Colorado, Wyoming, and Montana reporting almost drought conditions. West of the mountains moisture has been more plentiful. In most sections bees are now packed for winter and reported in generally good condition. Demand for honey continues good especially from large lot buyers and packers. A large proportion of the crop has already moved out of beekeepers' hands with a good share having moved to cooperatives. Indications are that less honey is being packed and sold locally by beekeepers than last year. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - extracted, Clover-Alfalfa, in carlots 12¢, in case to ton lots 12-14¢, mostly 12-12½¢. Beeswax 41½¢ per lb. cash f.o.b. to beekeepers. Details by States follow:

Colorado. Most of Colorado continues unusually dry. This is especially true of the north central and eastern part of the State where in many sections drought conditions still prevail. On portions of the Western Slope some rain and snow fell during this period. Colder weather prevailed in all sections, although there were sufficient warm days for an occasional flight. In many colonies the winter cluster is unusually large and with the relatively mild fall to date consumption of stores has been unusually heavy.

Wyoming. Temperatures have been quite mild to date. The State as a whole is somewhat short of moisture although in some sections considerable snow has fallen and the soil is in fairly good condition. The snow cover in the mountains is still very short.

Montana. In northern Montana the winter has set in early with considerably below zero weather during the latter part of November. In most places the ground is covered with a light blanket of snow, although in some sections the ground is still bare and in all sections there is still a deficiency of moisture. Bees are practically all packed for winter. A large proportion of the honey crop has already moved to market, a good proportion going to cooperatives.

Utah. The fall was warm and dry until around the middle of November when heavy rains occurred. Since that time it has gradually become colder. Bees are practically all packed for winter. Many colonies will need some feeding before spring.

Nevada. Winter has set in in northern and western Nevada about a month earlier than usual, with plenty of rainfall followed by snow and cold weather. Over most of this area bees went into winter quarters in very good condition.



ARIZONA: (Period Nov. 9-24)

In southeastern Arizona November has been colder than usual but there has been much more than a normal amount of rain. Desert plants have a good start for next year and a few fall flowers are still in bloom. In the Salt River Valley early rains have started mustard which is an important factor in the early build-up of colonies in February. While bees have been able to gather a little pollen, no nectar sources have been available. Practically all honey is out of beekeepers' hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, Alfalfa-Mesquite in single 60s 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 18-20¢.

SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period Nov. 11-25)

Northeast Texas. Killing frost over much of this section has stopped bee activity for this season. However, the weather is now good and bees are flying occasionally. Honey sales have been rather limited during this period. More Ribbon Cane sirup has been placed on the market and this seems to have cut into the demand for honey. Bees are apparently in good condition for next season.

East and Southeast Texas. Cloudy, cool weather has prevented bees from working on the scattering aster plants which are still in bloom. However, practically all colonies are now in good condition for winter with plenty of stores and young bees. More rain is needed to bring on annuals for next season's bloom. A few beekeepers have not yet finished requeening but are rapidly getting caught up with this operation. Lack of help threatens to seriously interfere with the production of packages and queens next spring.

Southwest Texas. In the vicinity of Seguin, good rains have fallen with very little cold weather and no killing frosts to date. Bees are flying almost daily and gathering some pollen. Colonies are generally strong and in good condition for winter. No local sales of honey have been reported.

New Mexico. The Mesilla Valley has had several good rains during the last ten days. Nights have been cold but some days have been warm enough to permit flight. Demand for honey has been light and some producers still have most of their crop on hand. In the middle Rio Grande Valley plants are in good condition for next year.

Arkansas. While there have been no killing frosts bees now have nothing to work on. A good many bees were poisoned this fall by cotton dusting, with the result that many colonies are rather weak for winter. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - Heartsease in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢.

PLAINS AREA: (Period Nov. 11-25)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Weather has continued fairly mild through the Red River Valley, with little below freezing weather to date. Rainfall has been ample to put plants in good condition for winter. The wet fall has prevented the usual amount of fall plowing with the result that sweetclover may be more plentiful next spring. Sweetclover along roadsides has shown some increase over recent years. As a result of the low honey yield this season and the small amount of winter stores many colonies are being gassed with the result that demand for packages will be unusually heavy next spring. Demand for honey continues good but very little is available for shipment. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, Clover in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 19¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 22¢.

Iowa. Most of Iowa continues quite dry although some sections had rain and some snow around the 20-25th of November. Present indications point to little clover next year. Most bees are packed for winter and are in very good condition. A large percentage of the crop is already out of beekeepers' hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Clover in case to ton lots 12¢, some 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ with cans returned, in single 60s to consumers 15¢.

Nebraska and Kansas. Rain and snow toward the end of this period greatly improved moisture and plant conditions. Sweetclover and white Dutch clover looks very favorable for next season. Bees were heavy with stores and generally well prepared for winter. Mild temperatures have provided ideal conditions for bees to go into the winter, but have resulted in rather heavy consumption of stores. Demand for honey continues fairly good. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Sweetclover in single 60s 15¢.



EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: (Period Nov. 12-27)

Michigan. On the Upper Peninsula bees are in winter cellars. All seem to be in good condition. The weather during November was unusually mild for this section, with little or no snow. On the Lower Peninsula temperatures have been mild for this season but still too cold for bees to fly. After heavy fall feeding a large proportion of the colonies are in fair condition for winter. Shortage of labor, however, prevented some larger commercial beekeepers from fully completing their fall feeding and packing operations before cold weather set in. Moisture conditions are generally favorable although in some sections additional moisture is needed before the ground freezes. The acreage of new clover seedings likely will again be light next year. Both white clover and sweetclover stands were adversely affected by the long, dry summer. Demand for honey has been only fair. The absence of buyers, however, may be largely accounted for by the fact that they realized little honey is available in this section. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - White Clover in case to ton lots 12¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 22¢.

Wisconsin. The weather was generally mild during this period with very little precipitation except for light snowfall which added a little moisture to the ground in some sections. In most sections the soil is still very dry. Most outdoor wintered bees have been packed, but many cellar-wintered bees are still outside since it has been too warm to place them in the cellar. Colonies are in generally good condition, heavy with stores. Demand for honey continues good but a large percentage of the honey has already moved out of beekeepers' hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted Clover in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 14-15¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 21-22¢.

Minnesota. Bees have mostly been prepared for winter. Most colonies were fed heavily and will require some additional feeding in early spring. It is expected that winter losses will be rather heavy unless conditions are ideal. Some sections of the State have had good rains while in others the ground is still abnormally dry. The ground is still unfrozen and temperatures have been unusually mild for this season. Very little honey remains in the hands of producers. Retail demand has been only fair. Retailers are mostly stocked heavily on sirups, jams and jellies, all of which sell on a comparatively lower basis. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - Clover in case to ton lots 12¢, in 5 and 10-lb. glass jars 20¢.

Ohio. In most sections of the State additional moisture is needed to assure a good stand of clover for next year. The fall has been very favorable for feeding and packing operations. Packing has been about completed although labor shortages have interfered with this operation among some of the larger beekeepers. Considerable fall feeding was resorted to. Heaviest feeding was required in the central part of the State while in the northern and southern parts of the State hives are heavier than last year. Demand for three and five pound containers has shown some increase, but has slackened for one and two-pound containers. Probably around 75 percent of the honey crop is already out of producers' hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars mostly around 20¢; section comb No. 1, \$6.00 per case of 24 sections.

Indiana and Illinois. Weather has continued very favorable in this section with ample moisture. Clover plants which survived the long summer drought appear in good condition. Bees are in generally good condition, with ample stores for winter. Demand for honey has been fairly good but not nearly as heavy as last year. Apparently a larger proportion of the crop is being sold to packers than was the case last year and a very high percentage of the crop was sold locally to consumers or retailers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., White Clover in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 20-22¢; Light Amber Mixed Fall Flowers in case to ton lots 12¢; Clover-Bean in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 17¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Nov. 13-28)

New York. Fall feeding has been largely completed and winter packing is fairly well finished, although some of the larger commercial beekeepers still have many colonies unpacked. Over most of the State moisture conditions are more favorable, but in the northeastern portion the soil is still unusually dry and the water level low. While the production of surplus honey in the State was

- continued -



abnormally light, sufficient fall honey was gathered to assure ample winter stores in many sections. With the mild fall colonies built up fairly well and most now have good winter clusters. Some beekeepers are disposing of a portion of their colonies in order to meet with the lack of skilled labor. Demand and movement of honey have been fairly good. Large containers have sold somewhat better than the one and two pound jars. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - White Clover in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 16.9-18¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 20-21¢; Buckwheat in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 16 2/3-17¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 20¢; Mixed Fall Flowers in single 60s 14 1/2¢; section comb White Clover \$7.00-8.00; Buckwheat \$6.50-7.50 per case of 24 sections, with practically all sales in very small lots.

Vermont. In north central Vermont the weather continued cold with some snow and wind. Bee activity has ceased for the fall. Demand for honey continues active, with extracted White Clover selling in 5-lb. glass jars at 17¢ and in 1-lb. glass jars at 21¢ per lb.

Connecticut. There was no snow in Connecticut and bees were able to fly a good portion of the time. Demand for honey has improved considerably during recent weeks.

New Jersey. Bees have mostly been prepared for winter and most colonies have good clusters and sufficient stores. Some snow and good soaking rains have put the soil in good condition before it freezes. Demand for honey has been very good. Practically the entire crop will be out of producers' hands by the first of the year.

Pennsylvania. No report on conditions was given. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - White Clover in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 18-19¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 22¢; Buckwheat in case to ton lots and in barrels 12¢; section comb one large lot reported sold at \$5.25-6.00 per case of 24 sections.

#### SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period Nov. 13-28)

Maryland. Very little rain fell during this period although there has been sufficient to maintain satisfactory soil moisture conditions. Heavy freezes occurred at the end of the period. There has been no snow.

Virginia. The fall season was very satisfactory for feeding and packing operations. Considerable feeding was necessary to one story colonies and 1 1/2 story colonies which were operated for extracted honey without the food chamber being above the excluder. Colonies are in satisfactory condition where there was sufficient honey during the late summer and fall. Considerable white Dutch clover has come up this fall following the early rains. No sales of honey were reported, but beeswax sold at the ceiling of 41 1/2¢ cash and 43 1/2¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

South Carolina. The first killing frost occurred in the extreme southern part of the State on November 21. Some late fall honey from Mexican clover, goldenrod, and asters is now being removed from the hives. In most sections bees are in only fair condition for winter.

#### SOUTH CENTRAL SECTION: (Period Nov. 13-28)

Kentucky. In north central Kentucky moderate rains and a wet snow have thoroughly soaked the sub soil. Honey plants are in excellent condition. Some increased plantings of sweetclover are anticipated. Bees are all prepared for winter. Most colonies have normal to heavy clusters with ample stores. Consumption of stores during recent weeks has been rather light as a result of lower temperatures. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb, beeswax 41¢ cash and 43 1/2¢ in trade.

Tennessee. Broodrearing has ceased except possibly in the Mississippi Valley. It is anticipated that many colonies which are light in stores and with few young bees will perish this winter. On the whole, colonies are not up to normal for this season. Honey sold at ceiling prices and a very large proportion of the crop has been disposed of.

#### SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Nov. 12-27)

Georgia. Light frosts have killed a few of the more tender plants but no general killing frosts have occurred to the end of this period. Bees are still gathering pollen and a very little nectar from <sup>late</sup> fall flowers. However, there has been very little hive activity and most colonies have formed their



winter clusters. Local demand for honey is increasing somewhat. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, Amber Mixed Flowers in case to ton lots and in barrels  $11\frac{1}{2}\phi$ ; Dark Ti-ti in barrels for bakery purposes  $10\phi$ ; Gallberry in 5-lb. glass jars  $20-21\phi$ .

Florida. In the extreme northern part of the State the first frost of the season ended bee activity on November 23. In this section bees are going into winter in fair condition. Demand for package bees continues good. In the central and southern portions of the State the ground is still dry although occasional light showers have improved conditions somewhat. Honey plants are in fairly good condition for next year and bees are in better than average condition. Only a few sales were reported. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted, Mixed Flowers in 5-lb. glass jars  $16\phi$ , in 1-lb. glass jars  $17\phi$ ; some Dark Amber in 1 and 2-lb. glass jars  $15\phi$ . Beeswax,  $41\frac{1}{2}\phi$  per lb. cash f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Louisiana. Warm weather during this period caused undue activity of bees in southern Louisiana. Broodrearing has ceased or nearly ceased and there is nothing available at this time for bees to work on. Scale colonies lost a limited amount of weight during November. Good rains have put the soil in very good condition which should help white clover get a good winter start. Inquiries for queens and packages continues heavy. A number of producers are already booked to capacity. No sales of honey were reported but beeswax sold at the ceiling of  $41\frac{1}{2}\phi$  per lb. cash, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

#### TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the last of November. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: No arrivals reported. Nothing available on spot market, occasional arrivals only from Ohio in carlots sold on f.o.b. basis. No comb on market, former receivers state good quality would be worth around \$8.00.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by rail, 1 car Calif., 1 car Iowa; l.c.l. 300 lbs. N.Y.; by truck 5,790 lbs. Ill., 3,300 lbs. Iowa, 1,020 lbs. Wis.

COMB: Supplies light. Demand light, market slightly weaker. Sales to retailers - ILLINOIS, cases 24-sections White Clover, cellophane-wrapped, few sales \$8.00-8.50, Light weight \$7.00-7.50.

EXTRACTED: Supplies light. Demand light, market steady. Sales by bakers and other large users - IOWA, 60-lb. tins Mixed Flowers few  $15\phi$  per lb. ILLINOIS, 60-lb. tins, Light Amber Clover few  $14\frac{1}{4}\phi$ . WISCONSIN, cases White Clover 2 dozen, 1-lb. jars \$5.75; 1 dozen 2-lb. jars \$5.58; 2 dozen 8-oz. jars \$3.15. ILLINOIS, cases White Clover 2 dozen 1-lb. jars \$5.75, 1 dozen  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. jars \$6.38.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 45-46 $\phi$ , few small lots  $43\frac{1}{2}\phi$ , per lb. delivered Chicago, few dealers paying  $41\frac{1}{2}$ - $43\frac{1}{2}\phi$  per lb. f.o.b. shipping point basis.

DENVER: Receipts: Extracted honey approximately 33,000 lbs. Colo.; comb none; beeswax 1200 lbs. Demand moderate, market steady at ceiling on extracted stock.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers - COLORADO, White to Water White Sweet-clover-Alfalfa and Mixed Mountain Flowers, case 12, 5-lb. glass few tins \$11.61-12.00; glass 12, 2-lb. \$5.43-5.65; 12, 44-oz. \$6.29-6.34; 12, 12-oz. \$2.40; case 24, 1-oz. \$3.30-3.39.

COMB: No sales reported.

BEESWAX: Demand good, market steady at ceiling. Dealers paying  $41\frac{1}{2}\phi$  per lb. for Domestic crude.

DETROIT: Receipts: extracted 3,580 lbs. Mich., 11,000 lb. origin not specified. Supplies moderate. Demand slow, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales by bottlers to wholesalers- MICHIGAN, White and Extra Light Amber, per case 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 24, 8-oz. jars \$2.77. ARGENTINA, Blended and bottled Detroit per case 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 24, 8-oz. jars \$2.77.



KANSAS CITY: Local truck receipts 2700 cases. Market dull.

EXTRACTED: Sales to wholesalers - KANSAS and MISSOURI, White Clover, glass per case 24, 1-lb. \$5.04; 12, 2-lb. \$4.76; 6, 5-lb. \$5.09. Sales to retailers- 24, 1-lb. \$5.75, 12, 35-oz. \$5.95; Light Amber Mixed Flowers 60-lb. tins, sales to manufacturers 15-15½¢.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, extracted 50, 60-lb. cans Amber Buckwheat, 300 cases 24, 1-lb. jars White Sweetclover; 175 lbs. beeswax.

EXTRACTED: Supplies light Demand fair, market steady at ceiling. Sales to wholesale grocers - U. S. 1 Blended honey 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$5.72. Sales to retail grocers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 2½-lb. jars \$6.52.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail, 2 cars Calif., 140 lbs. Fla.; by boat 225 barrels Cuba; 113 barrels Porto Rica. Supplies Domestic light, imported moderate. Demand rather light, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales by receivers to retailers - CALIFORNIA, Light Amber Sage and Light Amber Alfalfa mostly 16¢. Imported sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling prices as follows: per lb. Warehoused by dealers in U.S.A: 12,000 or over 11½¢, less than 12,000 but not less than 1500 lbs. 12½¢, less than 1500 but not less than 300 lbs. 13½¢, less than 300 lbs. 14½¢.

BEESWAX: Arrivals: by boat 23 bags Cuba, 11 bags Porto Rico. Supplies light. Demand good, market strong. Sales by receivers port of entry- WEST INDIES and SOUTH AMERICA, principally WEST INDIES, sun bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun bleachable 40¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Arrivals: by rail, 68,500 lbs. Calif. Demand slow, market at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: CALIFORNIA, White Clover, 1 dozen 5-lb. cans \$10.18; 60-lb. cans 14¢ per lb. f.o.b. shipping point to jobbers and chains.

BEESWAX: No sales reported.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck, extracted 8,664 lbs. bottled Midwestern; 2400 lbs. Ohio. Demand slow, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Brokers' sales to wholesalers - OHIO, White Clover, cartons 24, 1-lb. jars \$5.04; 12, 2-lb. jars \$4.76. Sales by receivers to retailers- IOWA, White Clover cartons of 24, 1-lb. jars \$5.00.

PORTLAND: Receipts: extracted via motor truck from Oregon - 120, 60-lb. cans Mixed Flowers, from Washington 50 cases 24, 14-oz. creamed honey. Supplies moderate. Demand slow for packaged honey except in 3 and 5 lb. containers. Supplies of 1 and 2-lb. containers (which has not been moving) reported fairly heavy on retail shelves; bulk honey demand good, market steady. Sales to retailers and other large buyers-

EXTRACTED: OREGON, Clover-Vetch and Blends 12, 5-lb. jars \$12.12; 28, 8-oz. \$3.36, bulk 17¢ per lb. IDAHO, Sweetclover-Alfalfa and CALIFORNIA Blends 6, 5-lb. jars \$6.06-6.12; 12, 3-lb. jars \$8.45-8.50; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.42-5.63, 24, 1-lb. jars \$5.75-5.80, bulk 16-17¢ lb. WASHINGTON, creamed honey 24, 14-oz. cups \$6.21.

COMB: No supplies.

BEESWAX: No change in prices, with dealers paying ceiling in cash or trade.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts light. Market firm. Sales by commission merchants and wholesalers to retailers -

EXTRACTED: IOWA, Mixed Flowers Light Amber cartons dozen, 1-lb. jars \$3.27; 2-lb. jars \$6.21. ILLINOIS, Mixed Flowers Light Amber 60-lb. tins, few 14½¢ per lb.

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND and ALAMEDA: Receipts: by truck, from Northern California- 291 cases Extra Light Amber to White Thistle; 34 cases Light Amber Star Thistle, 72 cases Light Amber Oak-Honeydew, 68 cases Amber Oak-Honeydew, 10 cases Dark Amber Oak Honeydew, 143 cases Light Amber Mixed Flowers; beeswax 10,080 lbs; from Central California- 222 cases Extra Light Amber Orange Mixtures, 90 cases Extra Light Amber Cotton, 75 cases Extra Light Amber Blue Curls, 170 cases Extra Light Amber Cotton-Blue Curls, 253 cases Light Amber to Extra Light Amber Mixed Flowers; from Southern California - 164 cases Extra Light Amber to White Sage- Buckwheat; from Nevada - 248 cases White Clover; from Wyoming- 112 cases Water White Clover; from Idaho - 100 cases Extra White Alfalfa-Sweetclover.

SEATTLE: Receipts: extracted Calif., 1,318 cases 6, 5-lb. jars; comb none. Supplies light. Demand fair to good, market steady. Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots -

EXTRACTED: WASHINGTON and IDAHO, Alfalfa-Sweetclover Light Amber 12, 5-lb. jars and tins \$12.00-12.60; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.95. WASHINGTON, creamed honey 24, 14-oz. cups \$6.24; 30, 14-oz. cups \$8.05. CALIFORNIA, Orange and Mixed Flowers, Amber to Light Amber, 24, 1-lb. jars \$6.25-6.55; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.80-6.12; 12, 3-lb. jars \$8.50; 6, 5-lb. jars \$6.25-6.47; 60-lb. cans \$11.19-11.50. COMB: IDAHO and OREGON, 24, 12-oz. Fancy \$9.25-9.50, 10-oz. Fancy \$9.00, 10 and 12-oz. No. 1, \$8.50-9.00; 10 and 12-oz. Choice \$8.25-8.50.

Released: Dec. 6, 1944.

meb



1.9  
M34H0  
Reserve

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION  
Office of Distribution

Telephone - REpublic 4142,  
Extension 2176.

Washington 25, D. C.  
December 15, 1944.

SEMI-MONTHLY HONEY REPORT - Vol. XXVIII - No. 24

SUMMARY

Winter has finally settled down in nearly all sections of the country. However, in most sections temperatures are still above normal for this season. Heavy snows fell over portions of the North Central area and the western part of the North Atlantic States. Large sections of the Plains Area and the Southwest have had the heaviest fall rainfall in many years, and the soil is in ideal condition. Portions of the Intermountain area are unusually dry. Weather during this period has kept bees confined in practically all sections of the country. Except for relatively small areas bees are in better wintering condition than during the past two seasons. Most colonies have fairly good populations of young bees and most have ample stores, although in some sections fairly heavy fall feeding was necessary.

Demand for honey on the part of packers continues very good although in many sections retail demand is lighter than during the past two seasons. With the short crop this year there seems to be no question, however, but **that** honey will be well cleaned up before next year's crop is available. With the lighter grades of honey largely out of the hands of beekeepers there has been a better inquiry in nearly all sections for dark honey. Some new crop Mexican honey has made its appearance. Practically all sales of honey have been reported at the basic f.o.b. ceiling of 12¢ per lb. in carlots or case to ton lots, and 15¢ in single 60s, regardless of flavor or color. Demand for beeswax continues very good but offerings are rather light in most sections of the country. All sales have been at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

- - - - -

INFORMATION FROM PRODUCING AREAS

(Prices generally refer to sales at wholesale by beekeepers f.o.b. shipping points except as otherwise noted. Dates shown for each section indicate approximate period covered.)

CALIFORNIA POINTS: (Period Nov. 23-Dec. 7)

Southern California. Following the heavy rains of November, the fore part of December was generally clear with cool nights. Plants are in unusually good condition although most have made very little growth as a result of the weather. In the Valleys bees are obtaining pollen from mustard and eucalyptus. Some bees are being moved into Southern California from the Central and Northern part of the State. While many of these migrant colonies are very light in stores most colonies which were established in Southern California last fall are in good condition with ample stores to carry them through the winter. Demand for light grades of honey has been extremely good. The scarcity of white and water white honey has resulted in an improved demand for amber. Some new crop honey from Mexico is being offered in the Los Angeles area at ceiling prices. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., in case to ton lots 12¢ for Southern California honey regardless of flavor or color. Offerings of beeswax by producers are limited with all sales at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash and 43½¢ in trade to beekeepers.

Imperial Valley. Rains during the latter part of November greatly improved the condition of desert plants, however, due to the fact that the honey industry in this district depends upon irrigated crops, desert plants are valuable mainly for the spring build up. Most honey in this section has already moved to market, although occasional lots of alfalfa honey are selling at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb. f.o.b., in case to ton lots.

Northern and Central California. Temperatures during this period were close to normal in Northern and Central California except in the San Joaquin and Lower Sacramento Valléys where they were slightly below normal. There has been very little precipitation since the first of December. Fairly heavy frost

have occurred in the valleys. Very small quantities of honey remain in the hands of producers. Demand for honey continues heavy at the ceiling of 12¢ per lb. f.o.b. regardless of flavor or color. Sales during this period consisted of Northern California Star Thistle, Clover, Snow Brush, Alfalfa, Bean, Honeydew and Mixed Flowers, and Central California Cotton and cappings. Beeswax sold at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. f.o.b. to beekeepers.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST: (Period Nov. 23-Dec. 7)

Weather was generally cold with lighter than normal precipitation for this season. Bees have been confined in all sections. East of the Cascades food stores are ample and most colonies are in good condition although some in the fruit sections are still in weakened condition from poisoning last summer. West of the Cascades some bees are being fed but most are in fair wintering condition. Demand for honey has been slow but a large proportion of the holdings are already out of producers' hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. extracted Eastern Oregon and Washington Clover-Alfalfa, in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s 15¢; in 3-lb. glass jars 19½-20¢. Comb- Clover-Alfalfa grade A \$7.50-8.00 per case of 24 sections.

INTERMOUNTAIN SECTION: (Period Nov. 24-Dec. 9)

While colder weather set in during this period most sections are still experiencing a milder than normal season. All sections east of the Rockies are still deficient of moisture. Some sections west of the Continental Divide have favorable moisture conditions. Bees are wintering well and except for portions of Idaho winter stores are quite ample although the mild fall has been responsible for a heavy consumption of stores to date. Demand for honey continues fairly good with large lots mostly out of producers' hands. Most sales have been at ceiling levels. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb.- extracted Clover-Alfalfa, in carlots 12¢; in case to ton lots mostly 12¢, a few sales 13-14¢; in single 60s mostly 15¢. Bulk comb- Clover-Alfalfa, in shallow frames 14-15¢ per lb. Section comb-NEVADA, Clover-Alfalfa \$5.50 per case of 24 sections.

Colorado. Colder weather set in during this period and bees have been confined to their hives. Most of the State is still unusually dry. A little snow has fallen but not enough to add greatly to the deficient soil moisture supply. Colonies are in better than normal condition in most sections with many young bees and generally ample winter stores.

Wyoming. Weather has been rather cold but precipitation has been light. Bees are apparently wintering well with sufficient stores.

Montana. The weather has been milder than usual for this season. Temperatures have fallen to around zero at nights but many days have been fairly warm. While some sections have had rain and snow most of the State is still dry. Practically all colonies are in very good condition with ample food stores. The mild fall has, however, resulted in a heavy consumption of stores.

Idaho. Winter set in early over most of Idaho, although some portions of southern Idaho report rather mild temperatures. The ground is covered with snow and moisture is generally ample. Most colonies are considered to be in good wintering condition both as to populations and stores, although a long severe winter could cause heavy loss. In some sections where sweetclover was light last season some winter feeding will be necessary. Some producers are taking bees to California in order to take care of their own package requirements next season.

Utah. Weather has been favorable both for fall beeyard operations and from the standpoint of bees. Many colonies are again rapidly dwindling as was the case last season, apparently from poisoning, although the exact cause of the losses is still pretty much of a puzzle.

Nevada. The weather has been unseasonably cold with heavy snows in northern and central Nevada. Bees have gone into winter quarters in very good condition with ample stores.

ARIZONA: (Period Nov. 24-Dec. 9)

In Southeastern Arizona continued cold weather is keeping bees inactive with the result that consumption of stores has been light. Moisture and plant conditions are favorable. Retail demand for honey has been rather slow. Light grades of honey are practically all out of beekeepers' hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point - Alfalfa in 5-lb. glass jars 20¢; Mesquite in single 60s 13¼¢; in 5-lb. glass jars 18¢.

- continued -



SOUTHWESTERN AREA: (Period Nov. 25-Dec. 11)

Northeast Texas. Rains have fallen during much of the time since mid-November, with many days considerably below freezing. Moisture conditions are unusually favorable for next season, but the continuous rains have interfered with the harvesting of cotton, peanuts and some other late fall crops. Bees are in good condition. Demand for honey both at retail and wholesale has been rather slow and much heavier stocks remain in the hands of beekeepers than at this season a year ago. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Cotton and Sweetclover in 1 and 2 pound glass jars 20¢.

East Texas. Slow heavy rains have fallen during most of this period and soil and plant prospects are now unusually favorable. Bees are in better than average condition with most colonies having an abundance of stores. At the present time the labor situation among beekeepers in this area is more critical than a year ago. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Mixed Flowers in 1-lb. glass jars 20-21¢.

Southwest Texas. In the eastern portion of this area good steady rains have fallen putting the soil in very good condition. Farther west in the State some additional rain is needed for honey plants and shrubs. Bees are in good condition. Practically all colonies went into the winter with plenty of young bees and ample stores. Demand for honey has been only fair. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Mixed Flowers in single 60s 15¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 23¢.

West Texas. In the southwestern portion of the State little honey remains in producers' hands. The crop in this section was about 50 percent of normal. Some feeding of bees will likely be necessary. Movement of honey continues slow, but all sales have been at ceiling prices. Some beeswax has moved to market at the ceiling of 41½¢ per lb. cash f.o.b. to beekeepers.

New Mexico. In the Mesilla Valley bees are wintering very well with ample stores. Soil moisture is very favorable. In some sections phacelia is starting to sprout.

Oklahoma. Mild temperatures with considerable rainfall prevailed during this period. Bees are mostly in winter quarters and appear to be in fairly good condition.

PLAINS AREA: (Period Nov. 25-Dec. 11)

Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Bees are now all packed for winter in this area. While no extremely low temperatures occurred during this period, bees were kept confined practically all the time. Toward the end of the period there was some snow which melted into the unfrozen ground, greatly improving moisture conditions. Movement of honey through retail stores in this area has been only fair. Some beekeeper-packers have not kept honey on the grocers' shelves in liquid condition. At present prospects for sweetclover bee pasturage next season do not look quite as favorable as in 1944. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., White Sweetclover in case to ton lots 12¢; Sweetclover and White Mixed Flowers in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 19-19½¢, in 1-lb. glass jars 23¢.

Iowa. Over most of the State this period was stormy and cold, with temperatures somewhat below normal and considerable rain and snow. In some sections some additional moisture is needed to put the soil in best condition for winter. Bees are now all packed and have apparently suffered no ill consequences from the weather. Most colonies are in fairly strong condition with ample stores. In general the local demand for honey has been only fair, especially at retail. A large proportion of the crop has moved out of beekeepers' hands although some beekeepers still have fairly large lots of honey available. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Sweetclover in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 16-19¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Nebraska. In northeastern Nebraska considerable rain and snow fell toward the end of November. Around the forepart of December temperatures fell to zero, but shortly thereafter it moderated to the point where bees could obtain a good flight. Farther south in the State the weather has been somewhat milder with many days having temperatures above normal for this season. Demand for honey has been rather slow although indications are that the crop should clean up before spring. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Sweetclover, in single 60s 15¢; section comb honey Clover No. 1 \$6.90-7.20 per case of 24 sections.



Kansas. The latter part of November and early December have been unusually wet. At Manhattan through December 10 there were about four inches of rain which is more than three inches above normal for the month of December. Floods have occurred in the southeastern part of the State. This moisture has put the soil in the best condition it has been in for many years. While below freezing temperatures have prevailed at times there has been no extreme cold.

Missouri. In eastern Missouri mild weather for this season prevailed during the first week of December. While temperatures dropped to around 15 degrees at times they held between 30 and 60 during most of the period. This section had a few light rains and a small amount of snow. Bees are in good condition but on account of the mild weather have consumed winter stores at a rapid rate. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Sweetclover in case to ton lots 15¢.

EAST CENTRAL AND NORTH CENTRAL STATES: Period November 27-December 12)

Michigan. On the Lower Peninsula heavy snows came earlier than usual this season. These should prove very favorable for clovers which often show some growth under the deep snows. Temperatures to date have been mild, ranging between 20 and 30 degrees. While Michigan honey stocks are low some packers and producers feel that they will be ample to carry through the season due to the light retail demand for small containers. This is partly accounted for by fairly large quantities of dark colored and poor quality honey on the grocers' shelves. Demand for large lots of good white honey by packers has been fairly good. While no definite prices were quoted on Buckwheat honey in this section, there have been indications that some has sold slightly below ceiling. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., White Clover in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 19 1/3-19 2/3¢.

Wisconsin. While there is a light snow cover over much of Wisconsin snowfall to date has been rather light. Temperatures during the latter part of November were unseasonably mild, but turned colder around the first of December. Practically all bees have been packed or placed in cellars. It was impossible for some large beekeepers to complete their fall feeding operations with the result that many colonies are rather light in stores. The mild weather which prevailed during October and most of November resulted in a fairly heavy consumption of stores. Only a small proportion of the honey crop remains in producers' hands. Demand for large lots continues fairly good, but local retail demand has been rather light. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted White Clover in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 19-20¢.

Minnesota. The weather for this period has been cold and cloudy but with very little rain or snow. The soil is frozen only a few inches in depth. Some bees have been placed in the cellars while others which will be cellar-packed are still outdoors in the hopes they can obtain a good flight before being stored away. Most colonies are in good condition, but some are already a little light in stores and all will have to be watched closely to prevent starvation. Demand for honey has been very good and most large lots have moved out of the hands of producers. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., Clover, in 5-lb. glass jars 17-18¢.

Ohio. The weather during this period has varied from unseasonably mild to quite cold. In some portions of the State rain and limited quantities of snow have fallen. In other areas, especially the northern part of the State, there is still a moisture deficiency and the water table is the lowest in many years. Bees are practically all packed for winter. In portions of western and central Ohio colonies are somewhat short of stores while in eastern and northern Ohio a good fall flow produced a fairly good supply of winter stores. Demand for honey in this section appears better than in some other areas, with most of the large lots now out of beekeepers' hands. Several large beekeepers have sold a portion of their colonies and others have indicated they will operate on a very limited scale until it is possible to obtain sufficient skilled labor to carry on normal operations. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., White Clover in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢; section comb Buckwheat No. 1, \$5.00 per case of 24 sections. Beeswax, 41 1/2¢ cash and 43 1/2¢ in trade f.o.b. to beekeepers.



Indiana and Illinois. Bees are in generally good condition in these States, with ample stores in most colonies. However, some of the winter stores consist of aster honey which is not too well ripened. While there is still some moisture deficiency over this area fairly heavy snow falls on December 11 and 12 should greatly improve conditions and give protection to clover plants. Demand for honey has shown some improvement and some producer-packers are already short of supplies to meet their current demand. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - Clover, in carlots and in case to ton lots 12¢; in single 60s and bulk to consumers 15¢, in 3-lb. glass jars 19-22¢.

NORTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Nov. 28-Dec. 13)

New York. Heavy snows around the first of December and again toward the middle of the month covered much of northern and western New York. The snows in the middle of the month blocked practically all roads in the western part of the State. While most bees were already in winter quarters, some fairly large yards remained unpacked and were buried in the snow. Most colonies were in fair condition when winter set in although some were still rather weak and many were short of stores. Demand for honey has been very good on both the lighter grades and on Buckwheat. A very large proportion of the light honey was already out of beekeepers' hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - White Clover and Buckwheat in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 18-20¢, in 1-lb. glass 21-23¢; Amber Mixed Flowers case to ton lots 12¢. Comb - Buckwheat few sales \$6.00 per case of 20 sections. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb. cash f.o.b. to beekeepers.

Vermont. Considerable snow and rain fell during this period and temperatures were generally above normal for this season. Demand for honey continues very good, with little remaining in producers' hands. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb., extracted - Clover in 5-lb. pails 17¢; in 1-lb. glass jars 21¢.

Connecticut. There was still no snow in eastern Connecticut up to December 11. Bees had obtained occasional flights and colony condition was generally good.

New Jersey. This period was moderately cold, with some rain and snow. Considerable additional moisture is needed in most sections of the State as many springs were dry this fall and the level of many streams was unusually low.

Pennsylvania. In western and central Pennsylvania the ground is not frozen but is well covered with snow. Some moisture had fallen prior to the snow but many springs and streams are still low and considerable additional moisture will be needed to replenish sub-soil moisture. Bees have practically all been packed. Heavy feeding was necessary to put weaker colonies in condition for winter. Demand for honey continues good. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Clover, in case to ton lots 12¢, in single 60s 15¢, in 5-lb. glass jars 18¢. Beeswax, 41½¢ per lb., f.o.b. to beekeepers.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES: (Period Nov. 28-Dec. 13)

Maryland and West Virginia. There has been considerable rain during this period. Maryland has had one very light snow, while in the mountains of West Virginia there has been fairly heavy snow. Bees have not had a good flight for several weeks. Aside from this most colonies are in fairly good condition and in most sections have ample stores for winter. Demand for honey has been very good and most stocks are now out of beekeepers' hands.

South Carolina. The weather has been cold for several weeks. Bees in the upper half of the State have brood chambers fairly well filled with Aster honey, some of which was not fully ripened. With continued cold weather this may cause some trouble. Demand for honey has been good, with stocks of native honey on grocers' shelves rather light.

SOUTH CENTRAL SECTION: (Period Nov. 28-Dec. 13)

Kentucky. In north central Kentucky ample rainfall and a good snow have further improved moisture conditions. Moderately cold weather has kept bees confined since early December. No honey sales were reported, but beeswax is moving at the ceiling of 41½¢ cash and 43½¢ in trade, f.o.b. to beekeepers.



Tennessee. Low temperatures during this period with frost and snow in east and middle Tennessee and frost in all parts of the State prevented bee flights. Many colonies are in need of food for winter and some may perish in this cold. In this section some beekeepers depend on feeding colonies light in stores several times during the winter instead of feeding all that is needed at one time in the early fall. Abundant late rains have helped all kinds of honey plants. Crimson clover, white clover, and vetch are in excellent condition. The 1944 honey crop is practically all out of beekeepers' hands.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION: (Period Nov. 27-Dec. 12)

Georgia. In southeastern Georgia this period was rather cold with heavy frosts and a little ice. The fall honey flow was generally light, but after heavy feeding of light colonies most bees are now in favorable condition for wintering although some may need additional feeding before spring.

Florida. Cool, windy weather over much of Florida has slowed down broodrearing and will help to conserve winter stores. Most bees are in good condition and with ample stores to carry them through the winter. In south Florida bees will soon start working on pennyroyal. Demand for honey has shown some improvement as more large-lot buyers are apparently turning to domestic dark honey. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Amber Mixed Flowers in barrels 11½-12¢, in case to ton lots 12¢, some in 1 and 2 pound glass jars packed by producer 15¢ per lb. net, above cost of containers and packing.

Mississippi. Along the Gulf Coast of Mississippi the fall flow was good and colonies went into winter heavier than usual. Demand for honey has been very good and little remains unsold.

Louisiana. In southern Louisiana cold weather has kept bees relatively quiet although they have had an occasional flight. Broodrearing has largely stopped. Bees are wintering well so far with scale colonies having lost relatively little in weight. In northern Louisiana freezing weather has stopped bee activity. Most colonies have strong populations of young bees and fairly heavy stores. There has been little or no loss in colony weight during the past 30 days. Good rains have put young honey plants in good condition. Demand for honey continues good, with most producers' stocks sold. Sales f.o.b. shipping point, per lb. - Mixed Flowers, in case to ton lots and in barrels 12¢.

TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FROM IMPORTANT MARKETS

Arrivals include receipts during preceding two weeks. Prices represent sales or current quotations by original receivers, and not prices received by beekeepers, except for beeswax as noted. Market condition comments represent the opinion of the trade and are for the middle of December. Extracted quotations refer to the pound price of honey in 60-lb. cans; comb prices are for 24-section cases; and beeswax prices are on the pound basis, where not otherwise stated.

BOSTON: Nothing arrived. Nothing available on spot market. No sales reported.

CHICAGO: Receipts: by truck, 4,646 lbs. Ill., no rail receipts reported.

COMB: Supplies light. Demand slow, market about steady. Sales to retailers - ILLINOIS, cases 24-sections White Clover, cellophane-wrapped, few sales \$8.00-8.50, mostly around \$8.00, some Buckwheat Dark \$5.00-6.00.

EXTRACTED: Supplies light. Demand slow, market steady. Sales by bakers and other large users - ILLINOIS, White Clover, 5-lb. glass jars \$10.80 per doz.; cases 2 dozen 1-lb. glass jars \$5.75; 2 doz. 8-oz. glass jars \$3.15 per case.

BEESWAX: Offerings very light. Dealers paying for country run stock 45-46¢, few small lots 43½¢ delivered Chicago, few dealers paying 41½-43½¢ per lb. f.o.b. shipping point basis.

DENVER: Receipts. Colo. extracted, approximately 24,000 lbs.; beeswax 1200 lbs. Demand moderate, market steady for extracted stock at ceiling.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers - COLORADO, Whiteto Water White Sweet-clover-Alfalfa and Mixed Mountain Flowers, case 12, 5-lb. glass few tins \$11.61-12.00; glass 12, 2-lb. \$5.43-5.65; 12, 44-oz. \$6.29-6.34; 12, 12-oz. \$2.40; case 24, 8-oz. \$3.30-3.39. (Correction-Last report should have read "24-8-oz. instead of 24-1-oz.")

BEESWAX: Demand moderate, market steady. Dealers paying Domestic crude f.o.b. Denver 41½¢.



DETROIT: Receipts: extracted 6,000 lbs. Ohio, 3,250 lbs. Mich., 1250 lbs. Iowa; imported 7,000 lbs. Supplies moderate. Demand slow, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Sales by bottlers to wholesalers - MICHIGAN, White and Extra Light Amber, per case 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 24, 8-oz. jars \$2.77. ARGENTINA, White and Extra Light Amber Blended and bottled Detroit, per case, 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04, 24, 8-oz. jars \$2.77. IOWA, White, per case 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 12, 16-oz. jars \$2.60 delivered Detroit.

MINNEAPOLIS: Arrivals: by truck, extracted 204, 60-lb. cans Minn. White Sweet-clover; 125 lbs. beeswax.

EXTRACTED: Supplies very light. Demand fair, market steady at ceiling. Sales to wholesale grocers - U. S. 1 Blended honey 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.04; 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. jars \$5.72. Sales to retail growers - 24, 16-oz. jars \$5.75; 12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. jars \$6.52.

BEESWAX: Supplies light. Demand very good, market firm at ceiling. Sales f.o.b. beekeepers for Domestic crude, Light Yellow cash 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, in trade 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

NEW YORK: Arrivals: by rail, Fla., 20 cartons in tins approximately 700 lbs.; by truck, New York 125 cans and 990 lbs.; by boat Mexico 1200 cases and 115 drums, Cuba 280 bbls. Supplies domestic light, imported moderate. Demand moderate, market steady, better feeling prevailing due to sugar situation.

EXTRACTED: Sales by receivers to retailers - CALIFORNIA, very few sales Light Amber Sage and Light Amber Alfalfa mostly 16¢. NEW YORK and PENNSYLVANIA Buckwheat 14-14 3/4¢. Imported, sales made f.o.b. port of entry at ceiling prices as follows: per lb.- Warehoused by dealer in U. S. A.- 12000 or over 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, less than 12,000 but not less than 1,500 lbs. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, less than 1500 but not less than 300 lbs. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, some sales discounted.

BEESWAX: 58 bbls. Cuba by boat. Supplies very light. Demand good, market strong. Sales by receivers - port of entry - WEST INDIES and SOUTH AMERICA, principally West Indies sun-bleachable 44 3/4¢, non-sun-bleachable 40¢.

PHILADELPHIA: Honey and beeswax: no arrivals. No prices available.

PITTSBURGH: Arrivals: by rail and truck extracted 1560 lbs. bottled Midwestern. Demand slow, market steady.

EXTRACTED: Brokers' sales to wholesalers - OHIO, White Clover cartons of 24, 1-lb. jars \$5.05; 12, 2-lb. jars \$4.76. Sales by receivers to retailers - IOWA, White Clover cartons of 24, 1-lb. jars \$5.00-5.25.

PORTLAND: Receipts: via motor truck - Oregon Mixed Flowers 77, 60-lb. cans.

Supplies moderate. Demand very slow, with practically no movement of dark grades. Sales to retailers and other large buyers -

EXTRACTED: OREGON, Clover-Vetch and Blends 12, 5-lb. jars \$12.12; 24, 8-oz. \$3.36; bulk 17¢ per lb. IDAHO, Sweetclover-Alfalfa and CALIFORNIA, Blends 6, 5-lb. jars \$6.06-6.12; 12, 3-lb. jars \$8.45-8.50; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.42-5.63; 24, 1-lb. jars \$5.75-5.80; bulk 16-17¢ lb. WASHINGTON, creamed honey 24, 14-oz. cups \$6.21.

COMB: No arrivals. Demand slow.

ST. LOUIS: Receipts light. Market firm. Sales by commission merchants and wholesalers to retailers -

EXTRACTED: IOWA, Mixed Flowers Light Amber cartons dozen, 1-lb. jars \$3.27; 2-lb. jars \$6.21. ILLINOIS, Mixed Flowers Light Amber 60-lb. tins few 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per lb.

SAN FRANCISCO AND BAY CITIES: Receipts: by truck, from Northern California- 175 cases Extra Light Amber Star Thistle, 115 cases Extra Light Amber Mixed Flowers; beeswax 1,025 lbs. ;from Central California - 182 cases Extra Light Amber to White Cotton, 23 cases cappings; from Nevada - 13 cases comb honey.

EXTRACTED: Sales to retailers and other large buyers: all grades and flavors- percase: 24, 1-lb. jars \$4.04; 12, 2-lb. jars \$4.70; 12, 5-lb. jars and cans \$10.18.

SEATTLE: Receipts: extracted Calif. 471 cases containing 6, 5-lb. pails and 490 cases of 60-lb. cans; Idaho 15 cases of 60-lb. cans; Washington 20 cases of 60-lb. cans; comb none. Supplies liberal from Calif., light from Idaho and Washington. Demand slow, market about steady. Sales to retailers and other buyers in case lots -

EXTRACTED: WASHINGTON and IDAHO, Alfalfa-Sweetclover, Light Amber 12, 5-lb. jars and tins \$12.00-12.60; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.95. WASHINGTON, creamed honey 24, 14-oz. cups \$6.24; 30, 14-oz. cups \$8.05. CALIFORNIA, Mixed Flowers and Orange, Amber to Light Amber 24, 1-lb. jars \$6.25-6.50; 12, 2-lb. jars \$5.80-6.12; 12, 3-lb. jars \$8.50; 6, 5-lb. jars \$6.25-6.47; 60-lb. cans \$11.19-11.50.

COMB: IDAHO and OREGON, 24, 12-oz. Fancy \$9.25-9.50; 10-oz. Fancy \$9.00, 10 and 12-oz. No. 1, \$8.50-9.00; 10 and 12-oz. Choice \$8.25-8.50.

KANSAS CITY: Truck receipts local honey very light, market steady.

EXTRACTED: KANSAS and MISSOURI, White Clover, sales to wholesalers -glass per dozen, 1-lb. \$2.52; 2-lb. \$4.76; 5-lb. \$10.18; Light Amber 60-lb. tins sales to manufacturers 15-15½¢ per lb.

Released Dec. 20, 1944.

meb

